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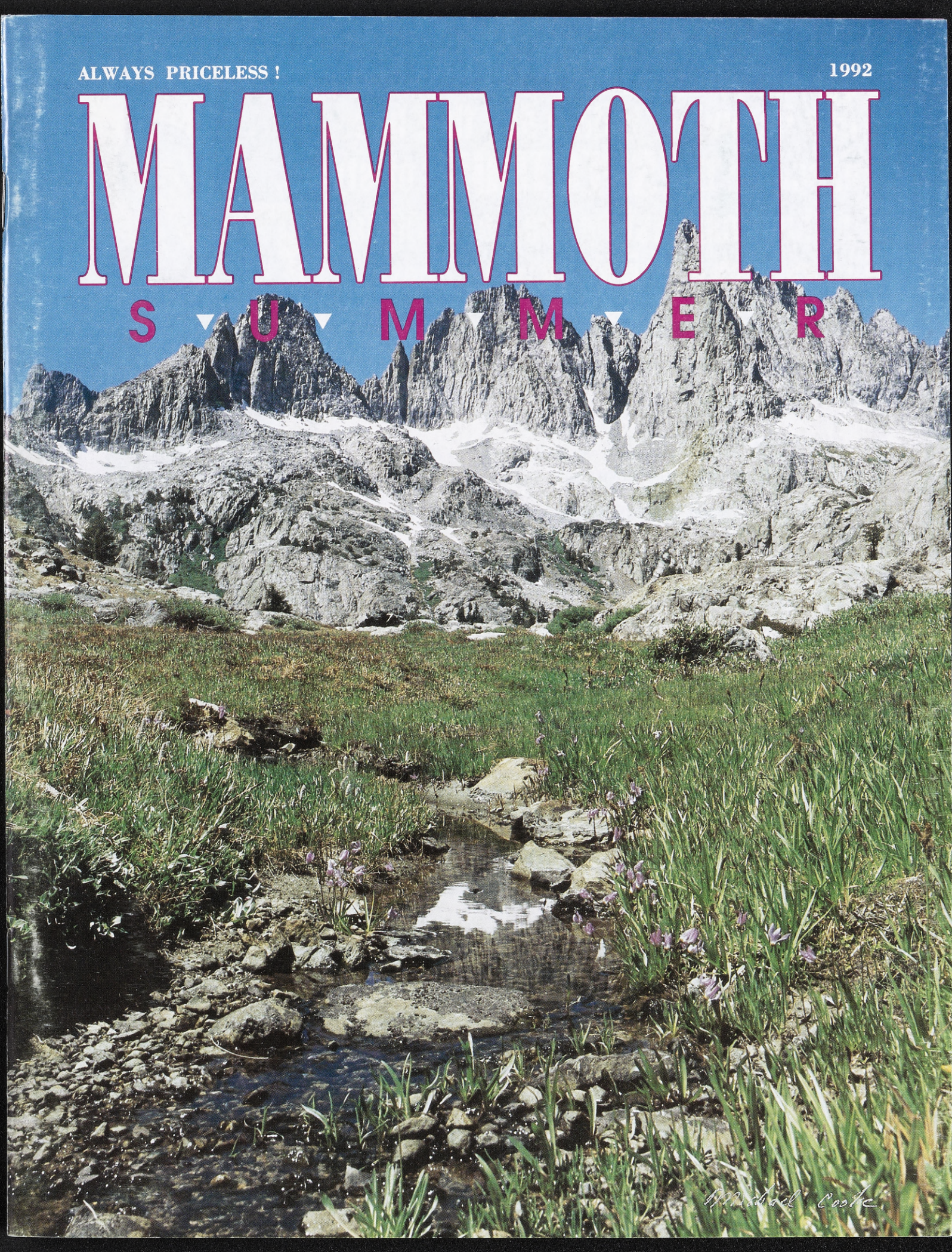
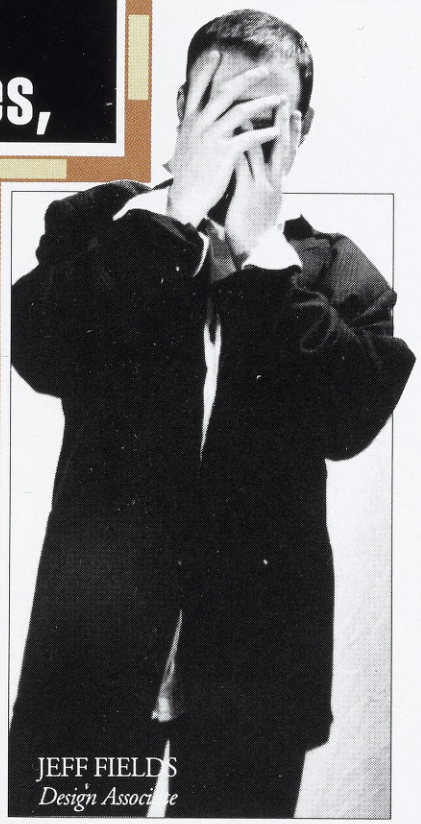
1992

# MAMMOTH

## S U M M E R



# An interview with a duo that has executed the SPECTRUM of styles, without exhausting the possibilities of creating new ones...



JEFF FIELDS
*Design Associate*

**Q: WHAT INFLUENCE DO YOU HAVE ON ONE ANOTHER?**

molly: We BALANCE each other. I'm the practical pragmatist. Jeff orbits around me, spinning off ideas.

*jeff: When I'm thinking the only possible way is* UP, *I look at Molly, who is pointing* DOWN.

**Q: WHAT IS YOUR DESIGN *DREAM*?**

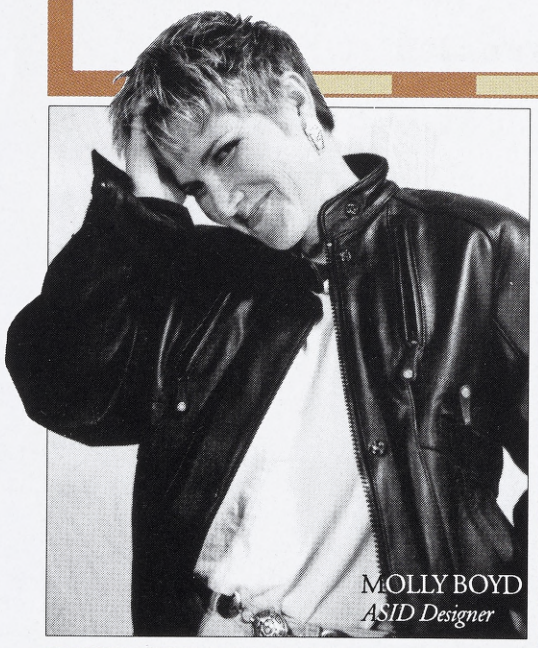
m: To have full creative license and an unlimited budget.

*j: To be commissioned to create a new look for the Statue of Liberty.*

**Q: HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE EACH OTHER'S STYLE?**

m: Jeff is wildly creative, instinctual. Almost too FORWARD thinking for the mountains.

*j: An antique wingback chair slipcovered in washed linen epitomizes Molly's style – it's an appreciation of* CLASSIC *style and environment.*



MOLLY BOYD
*ASID Designer*

**Q: YOUR FEELINGS ABOUT SILK PLANTS?**

m: Words alone cannot describe my ...I detest them. REPULSION

*j: Silk is for scarves.*

**Q: IF YOU WEREN'T DOING INTERIOR DESIGN RIGHT NOW, WHERE WOULD WE SEE YOU?**

m: Singing backup for Bonnie Raitt.

*j: Studying wildlife in the heartlands of America...* NOT!

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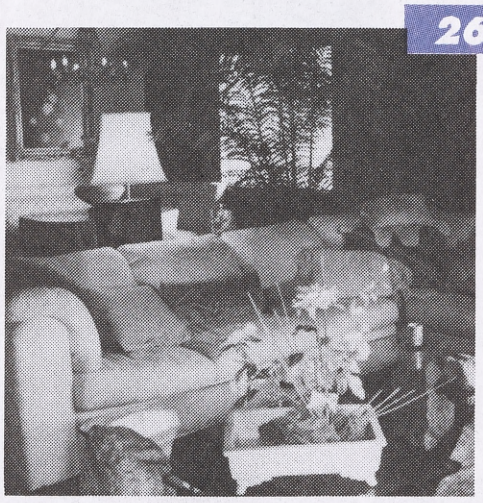


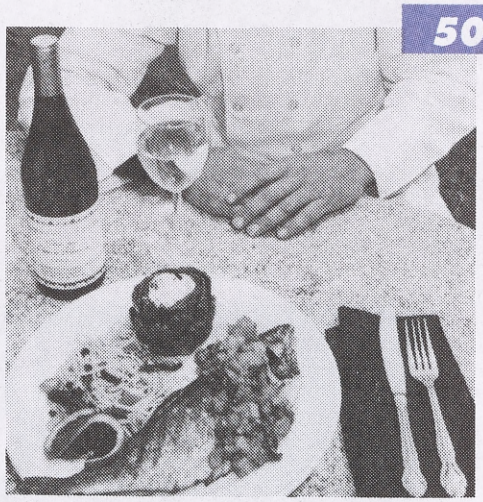


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# Mammoth "Naturally"

## *Mammoth Holds a Special Favor for Those Who Seek it Out.*

BY WALLY HOFMANN

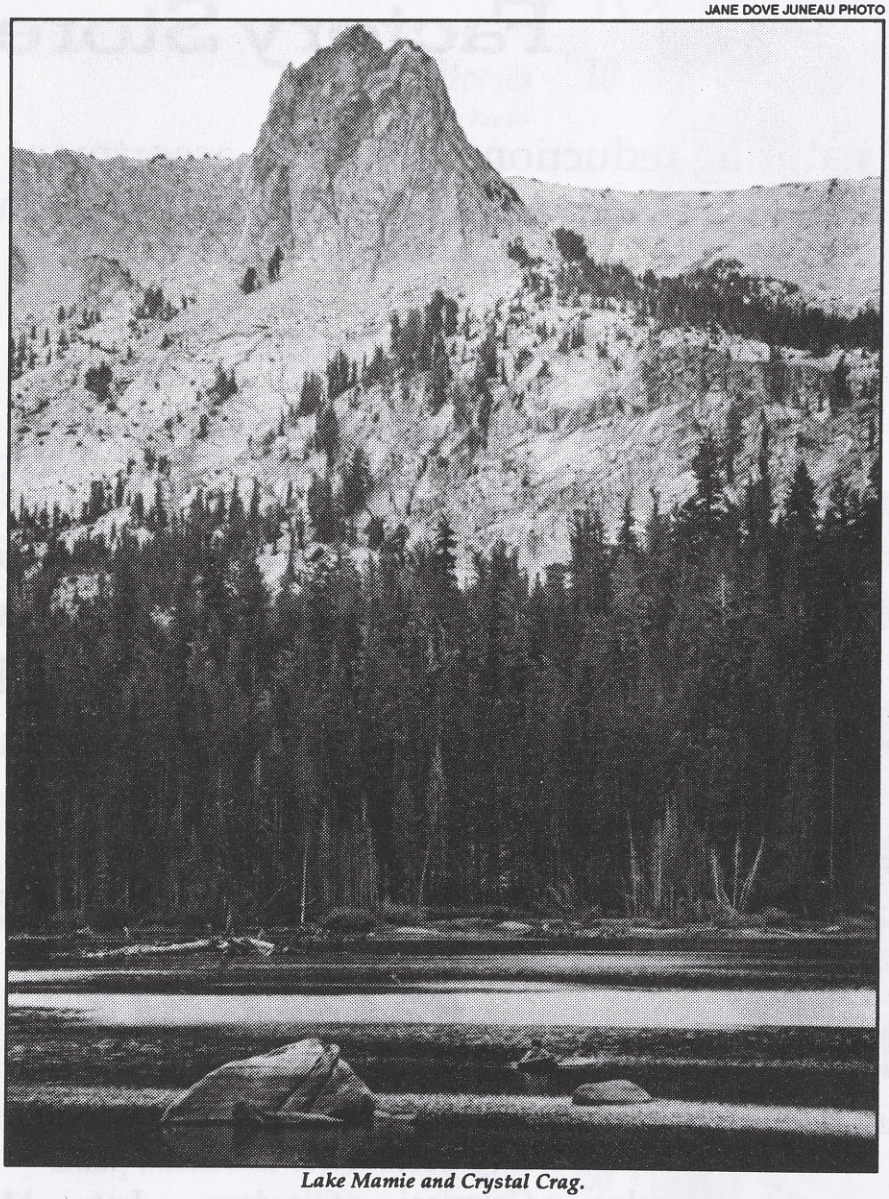
Mammoth is the new wine of adventure — and it's being uncorked over and over again in the stories and lives of the people who live here and visit.

We're an introspective lot, but we're also the kind that prefers to go places, do things, and discover.

Mammoth holds a special favor for the thousands of people who have visited here each spring, summer or fall — some of them for going on 35, maybe 40 years.

Mammoth holds the favor of *right attitude*, and gives it freely to all who would come. The benefits being self-improvement, self-image and peace of mind.

JANE DOVE JUNEAU PHOTO



*Lake Mamie and Crystal Crag.*

It was on a sunny after noon of a Mammoth Summer. The two of us fished lazily from my 12-foot, flat-bottom boat on Twin Lakes. The rush of Twin Falls, the glowing warmth of the sun and a cool breeze made me relaxed and introspective.

I wondered what on earth would cause a person like Darrell — VP of a major manufacturer — to take a cut in pay, and to start a small business in Mammoth? He'd moved from Westlake just a year earlier. His salary must been six digits - far better than his break-even earnings in Mammoth.

Then I broke the stillness. "Why'd you move to Mammoth?" I asked.

First he smiled. Set down his pole, stretched out his arms and, clasping his hands behind his neck, said, "Mammoth was always a dream for me — in fact, I think I'm dreaming right now.

"My parents were bringing me to Mammoth since I was four. You know: backpacking, fishing, camping — for a kid, it was great. Getting dirty, and staying dirty, for a week. But it was always a big blurred ball of memories," he told me.

"Then I kind of forgot about Mammoth for a while. It stayed in the back of my mind, and I'd think about it when I'd see a car commercial or something — But I always thought about Mammoth as something in my distant past or the far-off future. Never today.

"L.A. makes it easy to forget about things like Mammoth," he said.

I, myself, was remembering the trips to the beach, the Dodger games, and the regular family visits that I'd come to miss, living here in Mammoth for the past 13 years.

"I had a good job," he continued. "I worked 12 hours a day, and commuted for three more. And my promotions required that I travel two, maybe three times a month.

"In the early days, I'd even bring work home on weekends. All so I could afford to buy a house in a rural area — Westlake — and send my daughter to a small school.

"I thought it was important to raise my family in a safe place, out of the smog," he mused. "But my family was living without me."

There was a long silence as he relived the realities of his life just 12 short months ago. With another swig of his brew, he continued.

"So... now I make about five times less money. Jolie's third grade class has just 28 kids — I have time to drop her off and pick her up from school. I can even have lunch with my wife whenever I want. And although I make a lot less money, our standard of living is just as good here as it ever was in L.A.

"So who's richer?" he asked, staring across at the lake's tree-lined horizon. "Me in L.A., or me in Mammoth?"

Then he looked me straight in the eye. "It had to be Mammoth — *naturally*." MS

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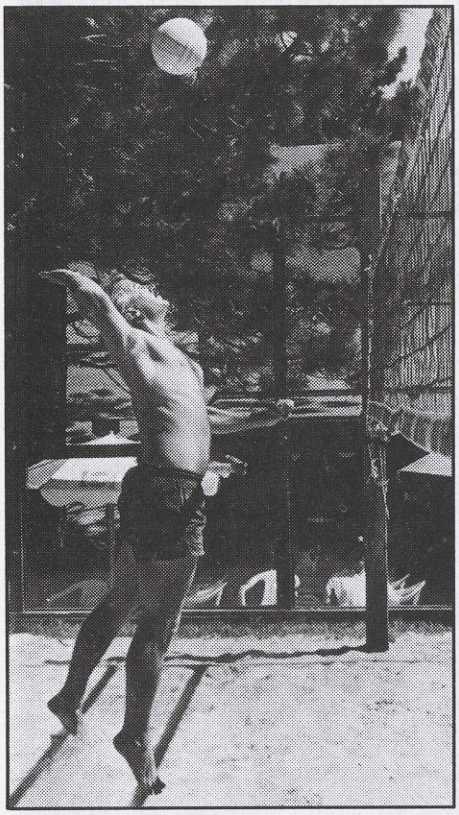
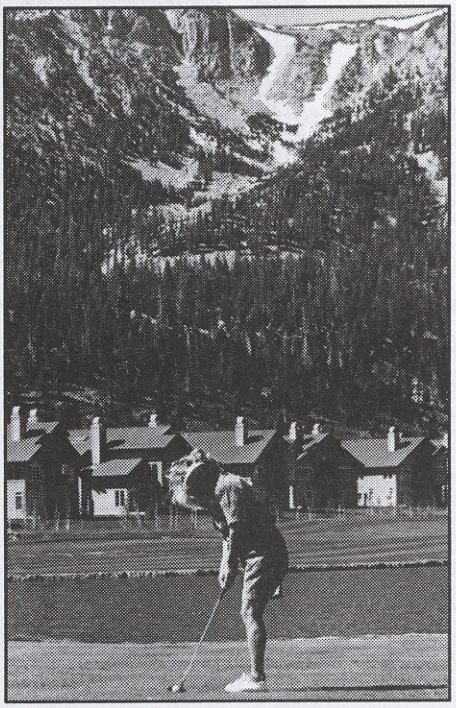
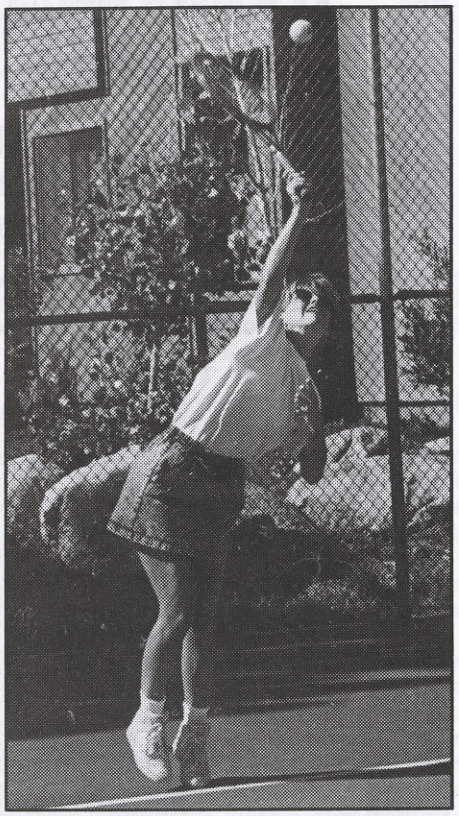
## Havin' a Ball!





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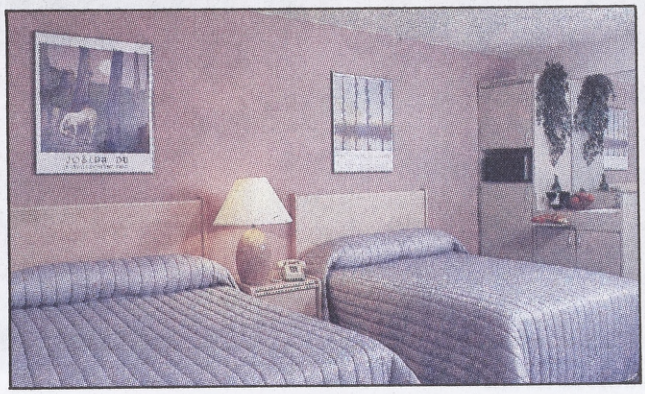

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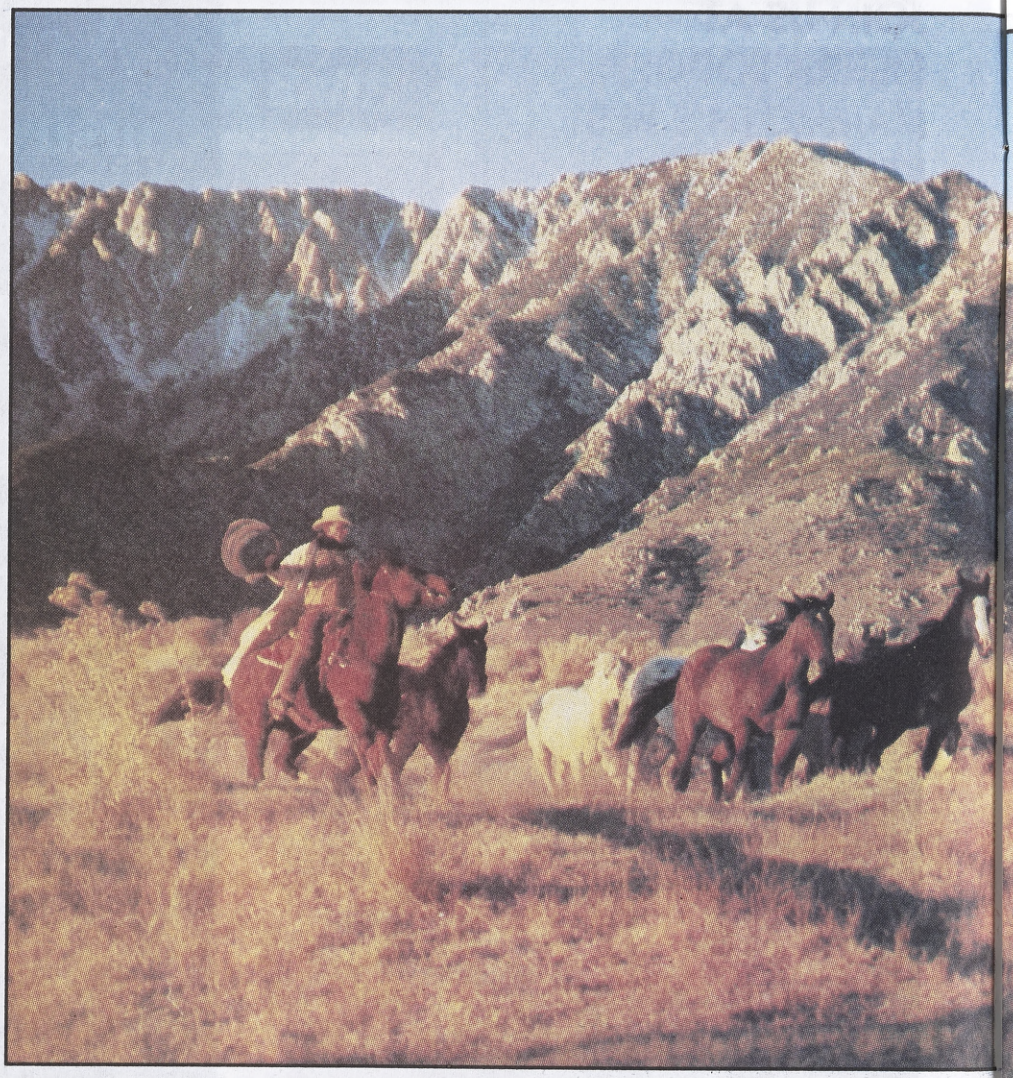
# THE FIRST HORSE DRIVE

## *Out of Sherwin Bowl*



BY LOU ROESER

In the early summer of 1961, we were pasturing some of our Mammoth Lakes Pack Outfit horses at Heart Lake Meadow below Red Mountain, which we had leased from the Mammoth Consolidated Mine. The feed in the fenced meadow was lush and green, and the horses should have been in "horse heaven." In the early days of the packing industry, packers grazed their stock in all the little meadows around the Mammoth Lakes area, and some of them were still fenced in 1961.

As soon as those additional horses were needed for pack trips, I sent two packers the short distance to the meadows to drive the horses back to the Pack Station. Some time passed before the packers returned to the yard — without the band of horses and mules — reporting that the horses were gone from the meadows. Someone had left a gate down and the herd had found the opening and left. The packers lost the herd's tracks in the rocks and had no idea where they had gone. But why hadn't the horses returned to the haystack at the Pack Station as they were prone to do, and where had they disappeared to?

By now it was mid-afternoon. I saddled up and headed to the pasture where I picked up their tracks, which amazingly enough led up the dim old Red Mountain trail. Picking up the horses' tracks above Heart Lake on the old trail, I followed them up to the top of Red Mountain.

Towards its eastern escarpment, overlooking the bowl that has since become known as the Sherwin Bowl, I lost their tracks in the evening dusk. The Sherwin Bowl is a high, glaciated "hanging valley," located on the front range to the south of Mammoth Lakes. There's not much there — it's a basin filled with giant granite boulders and sparse timber, and while there is some snow run-off early, there are no creeks and springs in the little valley.

It was now dusk and getting too dark to see any tracks very well. There was a solid cornice of snow on the rim and the slope into the basin looked way too steep and rocky for the horses to make their way down into it. So I followed some faint tracks on an old deer migration trail and scouted the top of Red Mountain. In the remaining light, I rode to a craggy peak and a bluff on the western rim that overlooked the bowl.

Suddenly from the valley below, I heard the distinct tinkle of a stock bell. (We always bell a mare when horses are turned out, and the other horses and mules will remain within the sound of her bell.) I had belled a big strawberry roan mare, named "Coconina," who was very popular with the mules. Peering through the last light, I finally spotted the horses and mules below me on a timbered ridge. They must have picked their way down a steep, rocky chute from the craggy peak.

It was too dark by now to do anything else, so I turned around and rode back off Red Mountain through the dark to the Pack Station. The mystery was solved as to where they had disappeared, but I didn't have a clue as to how they could or why they would have slid down into that rocky, waterless basin.

The next morning, a young packer named Gary and myself saddled up early and rode back up onto Red Mountain. But this morning we chose another route, and rode up the ridge from the meadows down in Old Mammoth, below the bowl. We carefully skirted around a rock glacier and rode up an old avalanche path (not the new one).

After riding as far as we could, we tied our horses securely to some pine trees and hiked and scrambled the rest of the way up on foot. We climbed up over the edge of the rim, into the bowl and discovered the herd grazing quietly. Coconina, the bell mare, lifted her head, causing her bell to *gong* as she sensed our approach.

We gazed up the mountainside in amazement at the place where they must have traveled down into the little basin. Those animals must have been part mountain goat to cling to the boulders like leeches.

There was no water and we estimated they had been here for several days, as their flanks were gaunt. Apparently they couldn't find a way back out of this hanging glacial valley.

Then I realized with a start that we really weren't prepared for this little horse drive. We hadn't brought any halters or grain bags with us, so we couldn't catch and lead any horses out of the valley. I had thought we could just haze them down off the mountain.

I managed to walk quietly up to Coconina, caught her, and then slipped my belt around her neck. I just hoped I could lead her over the edge of the hanging valley while Gary, on foot behind the rest of the bunch, would herd them over the rim behind Coconina.

I led Coconina to the rim but, after taking one look at the slope below, she firmly balked at going over the edge. She was a big stout mare and there was no way she was going to put another hoof forward. It was a stalemate.

I took the belt off her neck and made an "Indian war bridle" out of it, putting it through her mouth. Swinging onto her bareback and guiding her with that "war bridle" away from the edge, I suddenly turned her and pointed her at the bluff. Then I raced her hard off the edge, just like Yakima Knute, an old-time stunt actor. With a death grip on her scanty mane, I found myself looking down between her ears while she stayed on her feet, skidding and sliding down the hillside.

I experienced a sense of elation — *it was going to work!* Swiveling my head around to see how Gary was doing, driving the rest of the bunch, I expected to see the herd following behind us. Instead, I watched the herd run to the edge, pause to look at the steep slope, and then slide to a stop, refusing to go over the edge. The leaders wheeled and spun around, galloping away from the bluff. Gary was frantically running and yelling, trying to cut them off.

*With a death grip on her scanty mane, I found myself looking down between her ears while she stayed on her feet, skidding and sliding down the hillside.*

It dawned on me that we had to try this maneuver all over again. Coco and I survived that first run over the edge, but I wasn't so sure that we could repeat it — or if I could even get her back up that cliff. I slid off Coconina's back and tried to lead her back up the slope again. She scrambled upward, barely able to summon the extra effort required to top the bluff.

Gary and I gathered the herd again, with Gary playing "cutting horse" on foot. Once more I remounted Coconina and raced off the bluff with Gary running, whooping and hollering behind the bunch. We leaped over the edge with the herd behind — only to have them screech to a thundering halt, wheel and gallop away again.

We went through this procedure a third time, and now Coconina was beginning to tire. To make matters worse, the clouds that had been building up all morning now erupted into wind, rain and hail. What had begun yesterday as a simple task of bringing in the horses had now turned into an almost impossible problem. We couldn't leave them up there in that wild valley any longer without water, and they refused to make that plunge over the edge.

We regrouped again for one last try, resting Coconina for a few minutes. I myself was beginning to develop quite an aversion to that bluff.

Coconina was developing an even stronger aversion to it, and it was harder to convince her that she had to fly off like Pegasus one more time. I drummed her sides with my heels and once again we plunged over the edge. I looked over my shoulder, saw the herd anticipate the bluff and begin to spin to the rear.

Gary, who had been running after the herd giving his Apache war whoop, was also tiring and in his desperation had a moment of genius. Ripping the snaps open on his western shirt, in one quick movement he had his shirt off and over his head, flapping it like a Comanche on a wild buffalo drive stampede.

It was just the right touch and enough to spook those old ponies over the bluff. They slid and scrambled down the slope, skiing off the edge and leaving "ski" tracks in the soft soil. It was an all-out, dead run. I held my breath as Coconina, in the lead, flew down off that mountainside. I was just hoping she wouldn't take a header.

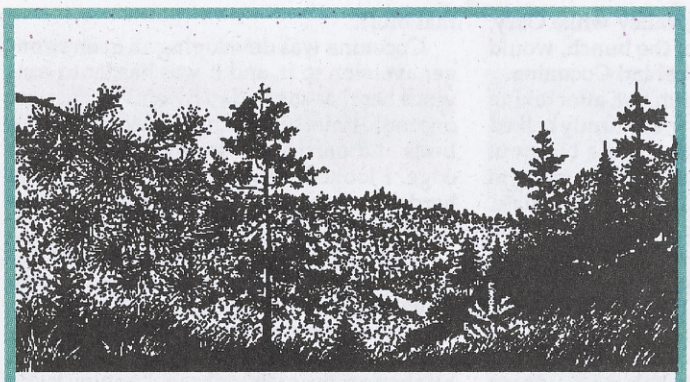
We leveled out some and were finally able to slow our wild ride out of the Sherwin Bowl. Gary came along behind, sliding down the hillside on foot, puffing and panting with exertion, his young face as red as his red hair.

Reaching our own tired and dancing horses, I stopped and retrieved my belt from Coconina's mouth while she spun after the still running bunch. Quickly untying my excited saddle horse, I swung into the saddle and chased after the herd. Gary did a pony express mount onto his horse and followed after us. I raced out in front of the bunch to slow and stop them while Gary caught up with us.

We managed to slow the herd by driving them off the foothills into the meadows and over to Old Mammoth Road. We then were able to catch our breath a bit. The ponies' sides were heaving and they were anxious for water as we rested them first before riding over to Mammoth Creek.

The rest of the drive was uneventful as we slowly rode up Old Mammoth Road, past the remaining ruins of Old Mammoth City's log cabins, toward the Pack Station. Gary and I looked back up at the mountainside we had just come down, amazed at the fact that both of us and the stock had actually made that wild ride safely. And we marveled at the first ski tracks we'd seen coming off the Sherwin Bowl. *MS*

*Lou Roeser has been the owner of Mammoth Lakes Pack Outfit since the early '60s and of Sierra Meadows since 1970. He's been riding the range and wilderness most of his life.*



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DAVID STRUMSKY PHOTO

*Wranglers move a herd past Crowley Lake on the Mammoth Lakes Pack Outfit's annual Horse Drive.*

# Happy Trails

## *Horse Drives — an Eastern Sierra Tradition*

BY DAVID STRUMSKY

Shadows of trees speckle the dirt road and the smell of pine pitch and sage is thick in the warm, dry air. The road disappears around a distant bend in one direction. The other direction, though, drops over a bluff toward the long swatch of blue that is Crowley Lake. The Sierra crest waits like an outstretched hand for the sun to drop out of the rich summer sky.

Then riders on horseback come around the bend in the road and suddenly, with a sound like growing thunder, the road and everything you think you can see becomes dust and horses, horses, horses.

The long, thick line of them grows longer and longer, overwhelming in its size, its motion. It seems to come boiling up from over the horizon, like something from out of the past.

*The Sierra crest waits like an outstretched hand for the sun to drop out of the rich summer sky.*

▼▼▼

This is a horse and mule drive — a traditional early summer occurrence in the eastern Sierra, when a pack station's stock is driven from their lowlands' wintering pasture up closer to the stables that will take guests on pack trips into the Sierra mountain backcountry. In the fall, the drive takes the reverse route when the stock is retired for the season.

Wranglers pace the herd, every once in a while breaking off to edge a horse or mule back in line. The drive drops over the bluff and onto the grassy meadow near the shore of the lake. Dust settles wearily in the evening light as the riders finally move to tie up at the picket lines.

In the corral, mules and horses nudge each other, too tired to move very far into it. They seem a little dazed, realizing that it's finally over for the day.

The riders, for their part, also seem a little dazed. It's been a long, hot day. But they're smiling and joking. The cracked lips and dry throats break into proud whoops.

Believe it or not, these riders are not paid help — they're paying guests, and with no regrets they say. The drives are very popular, and getting even more so; there's usually a rush to get in early reservations.

And if you're expecting it to be something like out of the movie "City Slickers," remember that that was Hollywood's idea of entertainment. Real life is much different, and much better. Pack stations involving guests on these drives know they have to run a top-notch, safe and responsible outfit.

Guests are in for some excitement, yes, but if that was all, it would be nothing more than an amusement park ride, a not-so-cheap thrill. If that was all they got out of the experience, these folks wouldn't be coming back year after year. ▶

Each Eastern Sierra outfit's drive takes place over dozens of miles and several days, and during that time several dozen strangers will grow into seasoned wranglers. But perhaps more significantly they will also grow into friends and know bonds as strong as roots.

The Mammoth Lakes Pack Outfit is the oldest pack outfit in the eastern Sierra, and the oldest business in Mammoth, and the Roesers have run it for the past 30 years.

Scott Lee, camp boss on one of the drives, allowed as how "A lot of people who've never ridden before won't attempt this. It's five days in the saddle. And it hurts.

"But people get hooked. They just keep coming back and back and back. There are a lot of different reasons, sometimes it's personal things going on. A lot of them are in 'mid-life crises,' like in that new movie 'City Slickers.' Looking for something.

"But it's riding as it's supposed to be," he continued. "Riding in the ring is an offshoot of this, where you get on a horse and you're pushing cows or horses."

Camp that evening is under a multicolored sky. Some people sitting around reading cowboy poetry, others are practicing with ropes and lariats, playing horseshoes.

Bill Davis, a big thoughtful fellow, took a moment to reflect on why he has been a repeat guest on the Mammoth Lakes Pack Outfit's drives.

"I haven't missed a single drive since 1981 and I have no intention of ever missing one," he said matter-of-factly.

He stopped for a moment, looking at the soft evening light hitting the Sierra crest a few miles away. Yes, he admitted, the scenery does have a lot to do with why he and others have come back on the drives time after time.

"One of the things I like about it is that myself and most people only get to see the Owens Valley at about 75 miles an hour. And now you get to see it all. You get a real sense of the history of the Owens Valley.

And for Bill and the others who keep returning for the drives, it never gets old. "The more times you come, the more you see," he said. "Every time I come, I see stuff I've never seen before. You'd think after a while, yeah, you pretty much know the area. Balderdash.

"When we leave Casa Diablo camp," Bill added, his eyes looking far away, "we come through the pinyon pines over there and the red rocks, down this shute and we come out into the hills, where all you can see is the next hill.

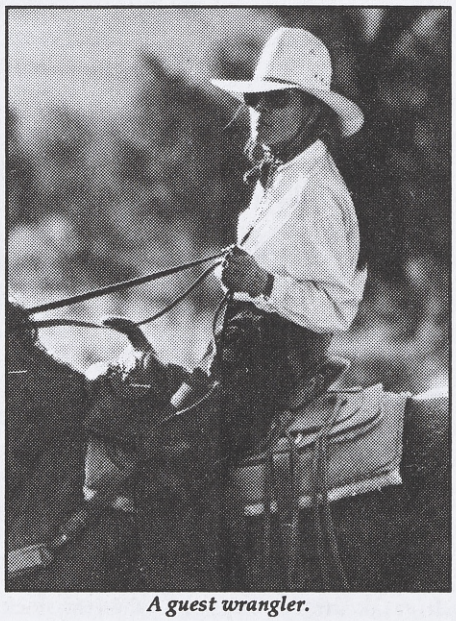
"And then you come up over this hill. You've got the hills rolling down to Lake Crowley, you've got Mammoth Mountain, Mt. Morrison and the Minarets in the background...

"I'm not necessarily a religious man, but that's a religious experience. Every time I look over at it, and I have these mixed emotions — I wish everybody in the world could see this, because it would then be a better place.

"But I don't want them there when I'm there," he chuckled. *MS*

*Cattle branding at the Miller and Wood ranch.*

DAVID STRUMSKY PHOTO



*A guest wrangler.*

## "Saddle Up!" '92 Horse Drives

Three pack stations will be running horse and mule drives this spring, and they'll be running the reverse routes in the fall. (All these groups also run day-long, or longer, pack trips into the Sierra.)

**Mammoth Lakes Pack Outfit** (joined with **McGee Creek Pack Station**) (619)934-2434

Their spring drive is divided into two halves: the Owens Valley Drive is from **June 6-10;** and the final leg, the Mammoth Lakes Drive, is from **June 13-18**.

**Red's Meadow Pack Train** (joined with **Agnew Meadows Pack Station**) (619)934-2345

Their spring drive from Bishop to Mammoth runs from **June 12-14**.

**Frontier Pack Train** (619)648-7701

Their spring drive is divided into two halves: from Round Valley (near Bishop) **June 5-7;** then on to June Lake, **June 12-14**.

Two of the pack stations are also running cattle drives this year:

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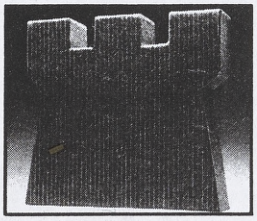

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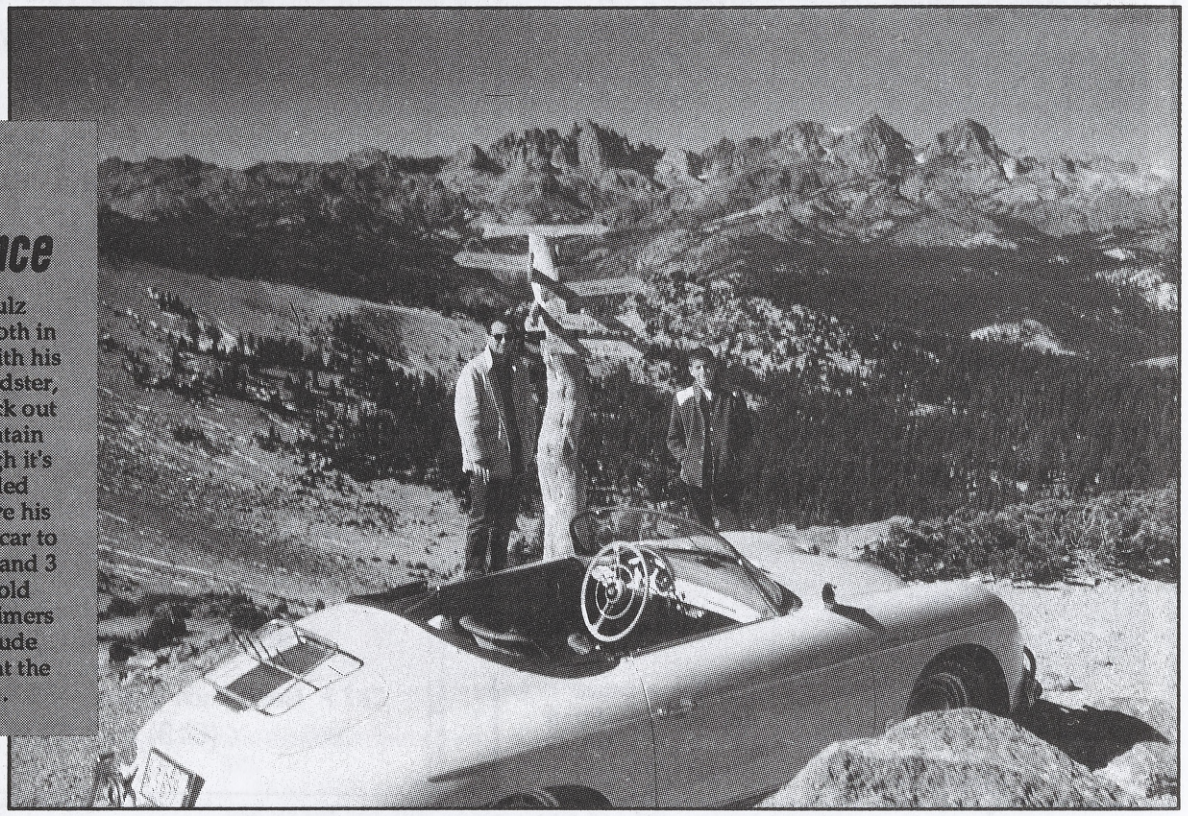
Photo by Fuzz Shulz

## Peak Performance

When Fuzz Shulz arrived in Mammoth in the Fall of 1960, with his 1958 Porsche Speedster, he decided to check out Mammoth Mountain Ski Area. Although it's not recommended today, Shulz drove his brand new sports car to the top of Chair 1 and 3 for this 32 year old photograph. Oldtimers will recall the crude trail marker tree at the top of Chair 1.



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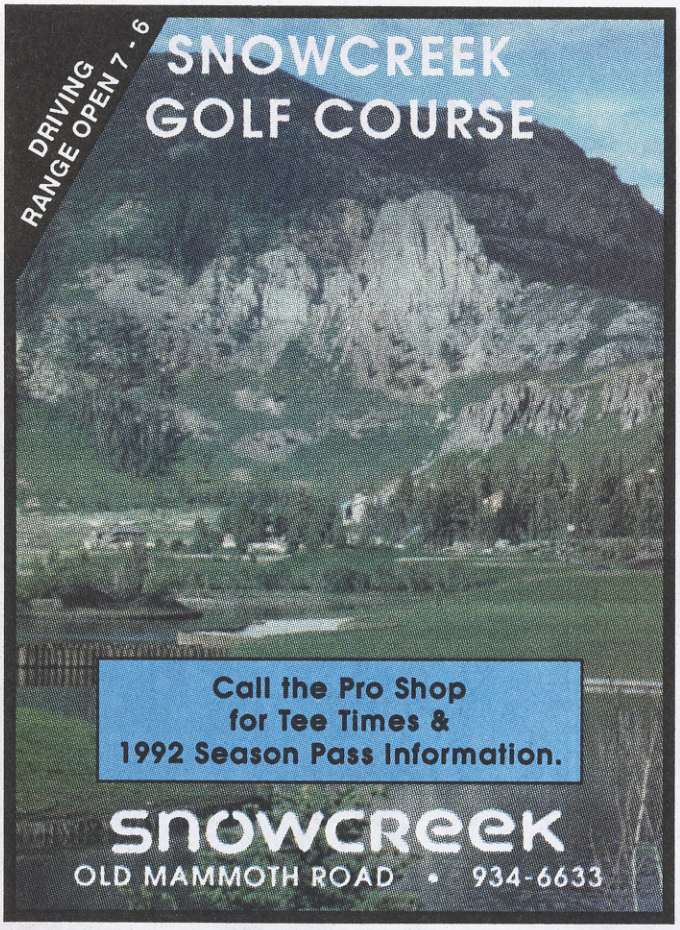
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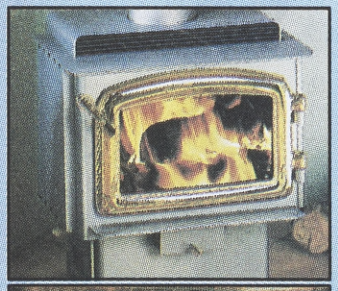

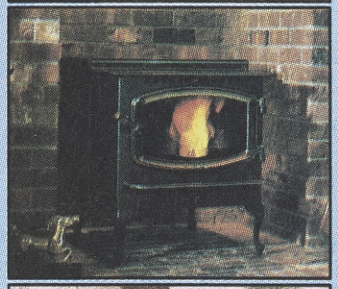

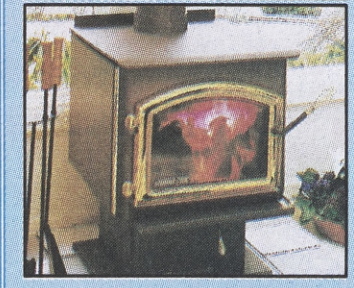

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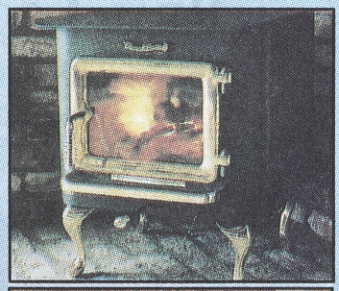
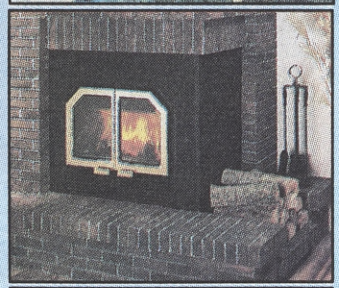




# OffBeat, and Off the Beaten Path

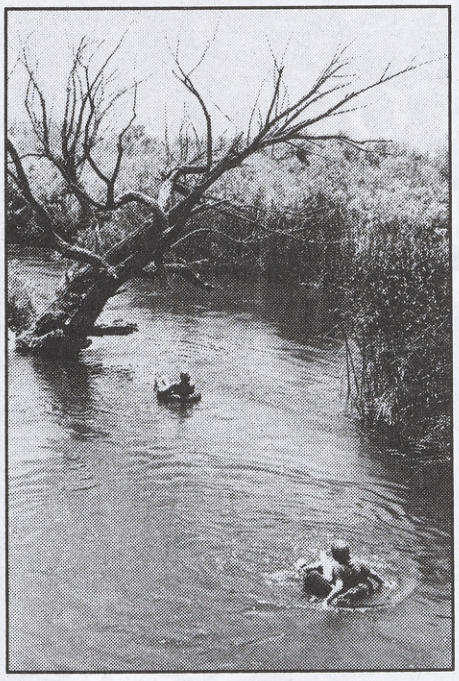
BY MELISSA LAMBERT

Like many who move to the Mammoth Lakes area, I'd always equated Mammoth with skiing, and skiing with winter. Winter was what the Eastern Sierra was all about, and that was that.

Well, I have never been so far off-base. Having now spent two glorious summers here, Mammoth means a great deal more than solely skiing. There is an entire Mammoth Summer's worth of adventure out there, especially if you're motivated and creative.

Last spring, to ensure a summer packed with adventure and challenge, my roommate and I drew up a list of activities with which we could fill those long summer days. In order to be included on our activity slate each item had to be: (a) within a day's trip to/from Mammoth Lakes; (b) relatively inexpensive; and (c) at least somewhat physically challenging.

For many, a Mammoth Summer means just great fishing and camping—but if you're looking for something a bit off the beaten track check, out the following ideas:



**1 Float The Owens River...** Grab an old tire inner tube or small raft, a few friends and a cooler full of your favorite refreshment and get set for approximately four hours of sunshine and laughter. The float, which takes place over a short shallow stretch of the river just south of Bishop, is best from late spring to early summer, when the river is at its fullest.

**2 Skate The Road To Benton...** Park at the Green Church (located on the corner of Hwy 395 and Benton Crossing Road) and gear up for a fourteen-mile roll! The scenery is peaceful, the cars are few, and the terrain varied. Cruise down to the bridge at Brown's Campground, dangle your feet in the Owens River and enjoy your surroundings. The roll back to your car can be a little taxing, so be sure to bring along a lightweight water bottle. And avoid this adventure on windy days — no sense fighting a headwind. If you don't own in-line skates, you can rent them in town at one of the sporting goods shops.

**3 Climb Crystal Crag...** This severe-looking mountain of rock above the Lakes Basin appears quite uncompromising, but once you've begun your attack (I mean, "ascent") of the Crag, you will find it to be quite forgiving. For maximum sun exposure, we climbed in our bikinis and hiking boots — however this is really not recommended for the novice climber (granite gravel can be slippery). Depart from the Lake George area and allow *at least* four hours for the round trip — the view from above is so spectacular, you'll want to spend time basking in it. Good advice: don't try to climb to the very top of the Crag without the proper climbing gear.

**4 Raft The Merced River...** Yosemite Valley is less than a two-hour drive from Mammoth and offers a rafting experience for novices, right down the middle of the Valley. The raft and life vest rentals are fairly inexpensive and are obtained at the boat house on the river in the Village complex. The water is higher and faster in early season.

**5 Log Around McCloud Lake...** This lake is just a twenty-minute hike from Horseshoe Lake, yet feels like you're miles away from the busy Lakes Basin. There are plenty of huge logs along the shoreline which are great for lazing the day away on. While you're there, look for the "shelter" made of an old tree root and branches. Bring a picnic lunch and make a day of this beautiful area.

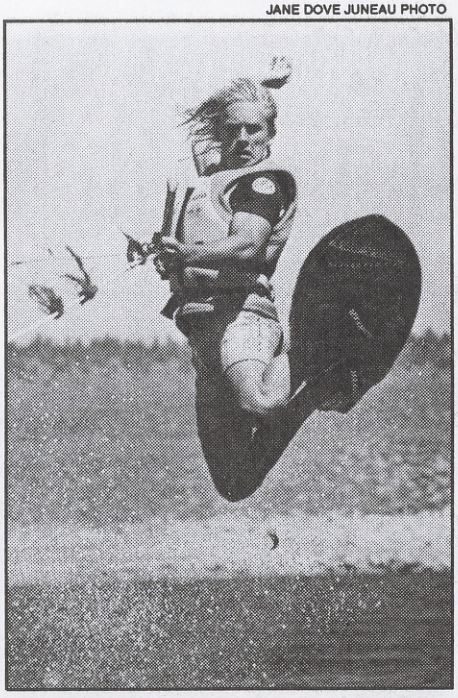
JANE DOVE JUNEAU PHOTO

**6 Bicycle The June Lake Loop...** Park at the Oh! Ridge area, which is on the way to June Lake from the southern entrance of the loop. You may ride the loop in either direction, the easier being counter-clockwise (riding the highway first). Wear a helmet, and bring lunch money if you want to stop at one of the charming little cafes along the route. Bike rentals are plentiful in the Mammoth area if you don't have your own.

**7 Explore The Mammoth Mountain Bike Park...** The trails in our local Bike Park could take days to complete all of them. They're vast, well-groomed and varied. My favorite is the fast and furious Kamikaze, while my roommate prefers the exhausting challenge of some of the cross-country uphill climbs. But whatever your pleasure, you'll find it here! An absolute must is the ride around Red's Lake.

**8 Sunbathe/Swim at Horseshoe Lake...** The best beach in the Eastern Sierra is right here in Mammoth Lakes! The water is cool and refreshing, and there's plenty of sand on which to spread out the beach chairs. Take a walk or bike ride around the lake on the path leading out of the top of the parking lot. ▶

JANE DOVE JUNEAU PHOTO



## ... And If That's Not Enough:

- In-line skate around Lake Mary to Horseshoe Lake and back (approximately four miles) or bike around the whole Lakes Basin. Stop for lunch at one of the cafes.
- Hike to Mammoth Rock.
- Discover Mono Lakes's late afternoon quiet. Make an evening picnic. See the full moon on the lake. Walk along the miles of shoreline of this inland sea.
- Explore the primeval world of Panum Crater's obsidian-encrusted core.
- Explore Bodie Historic Park.
- Bike to Red's Meadow and have lunch at the cafe.
- Visit Devils Postpile and Rainbow Falls (take a good book and read under the spray of the falls).
- Learn to rock climb.
- Watch the 4th of July parade down Main Street — it's hokey and small-town silly, but always a great time.
- Learn to parasail at Crowley Lake, or canoe Mono Lake.
- Check-out the motocross track near the Sherwin Creek Campground — even if there is not a competition, you can almost always find someone riding.
- Hike to Duck Lake and jog back down.
- Watch the sunset from Panorama Dome.
- Waterski on Grant or Crowley lakes.
- Learn how to wind sail on June or Crowley lakes.
- Play volleyball at Grumpy's Park.
- Have dinner or sip margaritas outside on a local restaurant's outside deck.
- Dance until closing time — check out all the different styles at all the different clubs; there is never a cover charge.

Above all — enjoy your time here in Mammoth as you can only in Mammoth. ***MS***

**9 Plan A Day At Shady Rest...** There are barbecues, swings, covered picnic tables, a volleyball court, baseball diamonds, soccer fields, running trails, and even public bathrooms at this town-operated park. Get your friends and family together for a full day's worth of activities. (Be sure to call the Town of Mammoth Lakes Park Department to reserve for larger groups.)

**10 See the Mammoth Scenic Loop...** Whether you're on foot, skates or a bicycle, cruise the Loop at least once this summer. Stop the car somewhere and hike — there are several trails and sights to see that take you off the paved road. Suggestions: The blue diamond trail, which takes you back into Shady Rest Park, and the Inyo Crater road. Bikes are allowed only on Forest Service dirt roads, so check in with them or a local bike shop for trail maps of the area. It's easy to get very lost. *MS*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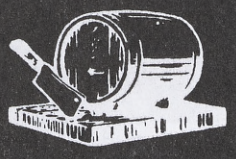

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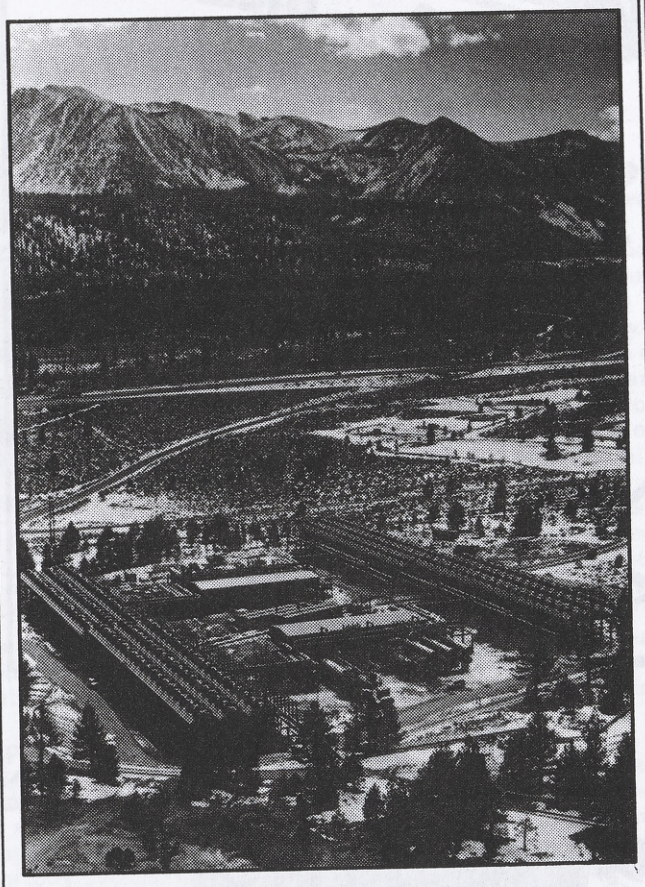

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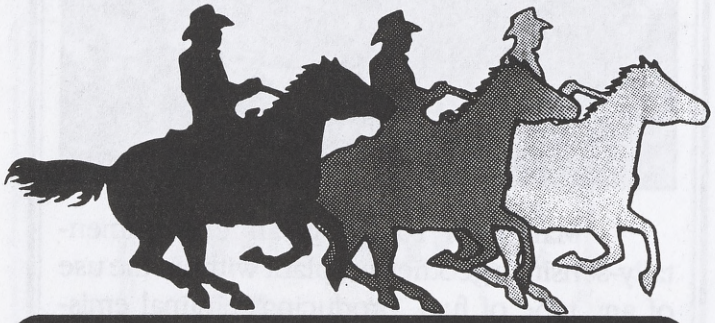

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# Emmet Hayden -- Mapmaker

## *Mammoth's First Ambassador of Tourism*

BY DAVE SWART

PHOTOS AND MAP COURTESY OF MAMMOTH MUSEUM

In the 1920s, a new facet of American life was beginning to develop that would eventually develop into an American institution—automobile travel and tourism.

The family car could be loaded up with supplies and camping gear, Grandma and the kids. Speedy travel through the countryside and across the desert would soon bring summer visitors to the eastern High Sierra.

In those days, the United States Forest Service wanted to attract campers, hunters and fishermen to the National Forests, and the Inyo and Mono National Forests were no exception. (They are now combined into simply the "Inyo National Forest," one of the largest in the country.)

*The Hayden Map Co. Hunting and Fishing Scout Car in front of Hayden's Cabin on Mammoth Creek, now the Mammoth Museum.*

The Forest Ranger for the Mammoth District then was Doug Robinson. He was offering land leases for potential summer homes to be built around the lakes basin, at Shady Rest Tract and on Mammoth Creek. In all, nearly 100 cabins were built locally before World War II.

One of those attracted to the idea of a summer cabin in the mountains was Emmet Hayden, of Glendale, California. Hayden went to Robinson's office on Mammoth Creek, near Mammoth Camp, in 1927 to see about building a cabin on Forest Service land.

Robinson was happy to oblige. He took Hayden for a short walk down the dirt road, along the creekside to a site where, over the next few years, five such cabins would be built. Hayden was happy to sign a lease that required a payment of $50, due on January 1, every year.

*Margret and Emmet Hayden enjoyed their summers in Mammoth.*

Sixty-five years later, Hayden's log cabin is still there, serving as the Mammoth Museum, open to the public each summer. If he were alive today, Hayden would be proud to know that the Southern Mono Historical Society saved his cabin from certain demolition in the mid-1980s when the four remaining neighboring cabins were burned down for practice by local fire protection agencies.

Hayden designed and built the cabin over the next 11 summers with the help of his friends Vincent Ruh, Jack Greth and Norvil Aigner. He himself was proficient in many fields, although he was only 28 years old when construction began. He held several State of California certificates, including Civil Engineering and Structural Engineering. He was also a draftsman, architect, mapmaker and surveyor. As his cabin began to develop, so did his new business, the Hayden Map Company.

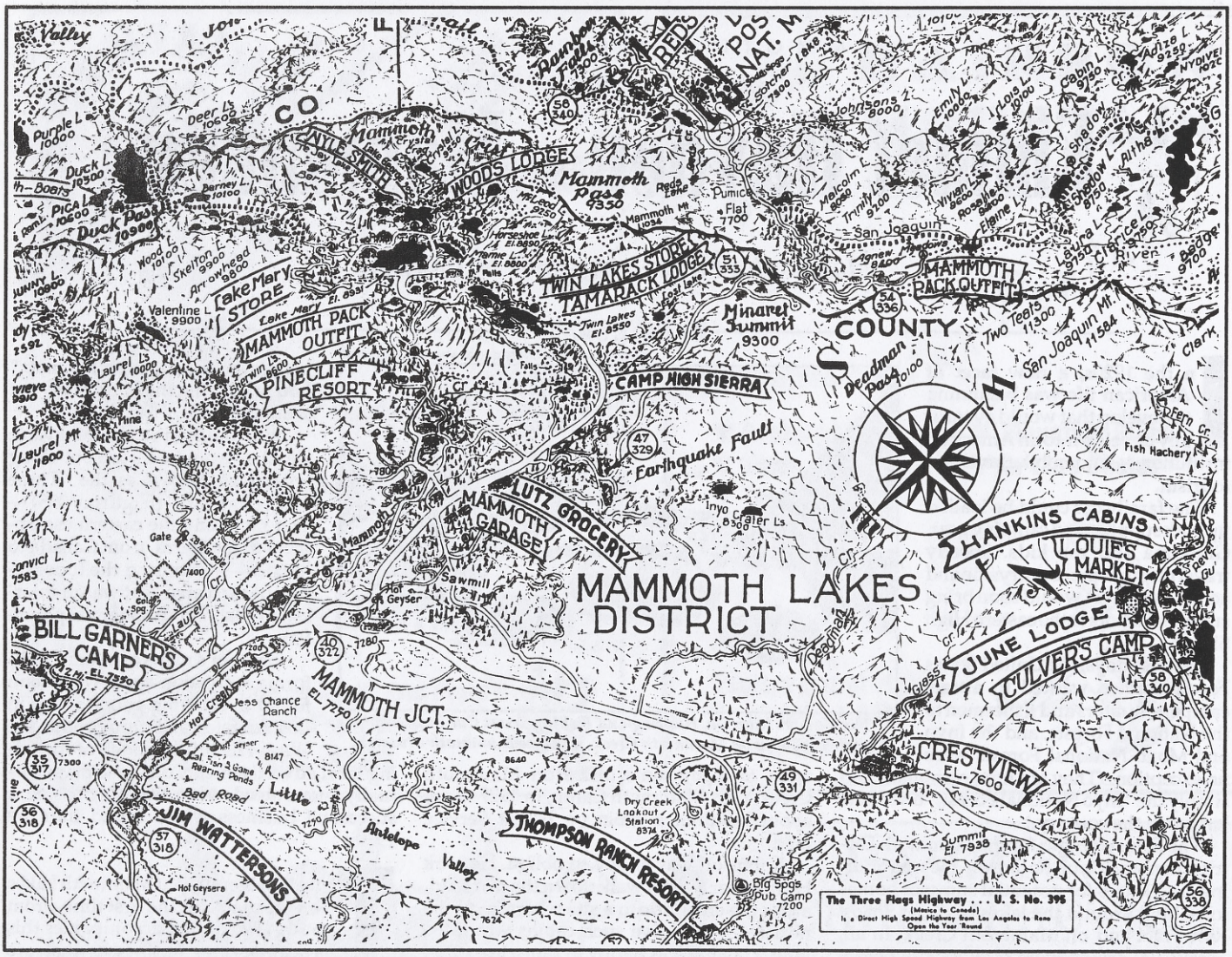
"He was rather eccentric," Lou and Mary Roeser, owners of Mammoth Lakes Pack Outfit, recall. The Roesers remember Hayden from their early years in Mammoth in the late 1940s. "He was always trying to get people to advertise on his map," Lou said. "And that map really got around."

With the Sierra as his backyard, Hayden would venture out along what was known as the "Three Flags Highway" (Highway 395)—as it ran along the eastern escarpment of the Sierra, from Canada to Mexico — recording the topography of each area that was of interest, or that had commercial potential.

Hayden's maps of eastern California recreation spots were soon found in sporting goods stores in Los Angeles and throughout the West. His brilliant idea of including local advertisements on those maps virtually guaranteed what was to become a successful business which lasted into the 1960s.

That effort literally put Mammoth Lakes "on the map" for the first time. From the 1941 map that accompanies this article, several businesses that are still operating (if not always by the same people) can be found, including Camp High Sierra, Mammoth Pack Outfit, Lake Mary Store, Twin Lakes Store, Tamarack Lodge, ▶

*Hayden at his winter home in Glendale, CA.*




***A small section of the 1941 version of Hayden's "Fisherman's Paradise" map that featured the Mammoth Lakes area. Copies of the whole map are available at the Mammoth Museum, originally Hayden's summer home on Mammoth Creek.***

Wood's Lodge, Tom's Place and Rock Creek Pack Station. Other businesses of note include Lutz Grocery (where Mammoth Properties is today), Mammoth Garage (today's Shell gas station) and Nyle Smith boats on Lake George and Duck Lake.

At times, however, Hayden got mapmaking and poetic license mixed up.

Apparently, Nyle Smith was a good friend of Hayden. Upon close examination of the local backcountry on these maps, one will notice that Hayden took the liberty to rename some lakes. The "Lake of the Nyle," for instance, was an attempt to honor their friendship, although through the years the real name of Peter Pande Lake has prevailed.

One name that has stuck, though, is Margaret Lakes on the Silver Divide, named after Hayden's wife. In the nearby upper Lone Indian chain, Squaw and Papoose Lakes appear as Helen and Bob Lakes on Hayden's maps. No one knows exactly who Helen and Bob are anymore, as the more traditional Lone Indian names are still found on today's topo maps.

"Emmet was good friends with Lee Summers," remembers Mary Roeser. "They were a pretty rowdy bunch, though. They'd stay up all night and play poker with Emmet's buddies that came up from down south. The locals all knew whenever Emmet had a poker party."

Lou and Mary bought the Mammoth Lakes Pack Outfit from Lee Summers in the early '60s. Lee was the son of Charlie Summers, who virtually started Mammoth Camp as a summer resort in the 1920s. Local legends of Lee are almost as notorious as those of Hayden.

When Lou and Mary Roeser opened Sierra Meadows in 1970, the Hayden family were also trying to sell their cabin, but to no avail. A nephew of Hayden took over the lease about that time, and ultimately it was saved for use as the Mammoth Museum.

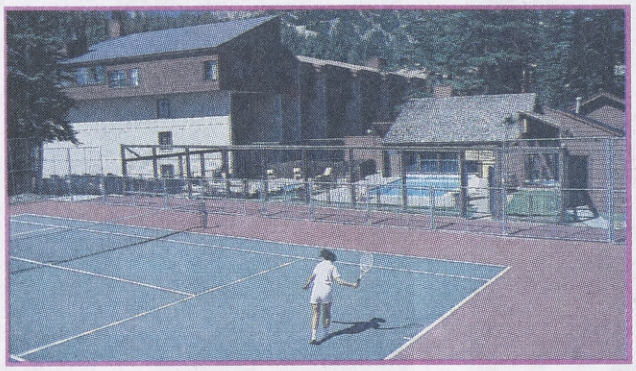
For a realistic feel of what Mammoth was like in the old days, drop by the Mammoth Museum — in the old Hayden cabin, just off Old Mammoth Road near Mammoth Creek and Sierra Meadows Equestrian Center. It's a wonderful tribute to Emmet Hayden, our first local ambassador of tourism. ***MS***

## Mammoth Museum & Historic Preserve

The Mammoth Museum is open seven days a week, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Visitors are welcome to come and experience a taste of Mammoth's past. From the early mining days of 1880, through the beginnings of automobile tourism and summer cabin residents, through the early days of skiing on Mammoth Mountain.

The Mammoth Museum and Historical Preserve is operated by the Southern Mono Historic Society, a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of Mammoth's past. Inexpensive, tax-deductible memberships are available at the museum site, and pieces of the historical puzzle, letters, photographs, artifacts and local memorabilia are gladly accepted. For membership information, write to the Southern Mono Historical Society at P.O. Box 65, Mammoth Lakes, California, 93546. ***MS***

# Relax!



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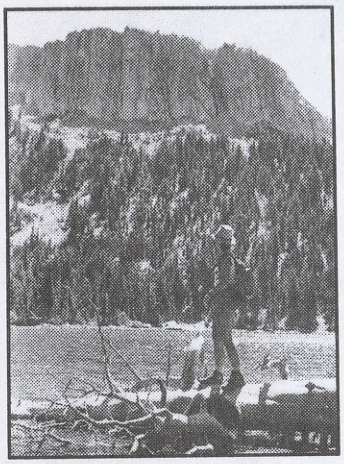

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# INN THE MOOD

## Lloyds Of Mammoth Insure Lavish Style

WRITTEN BY LYNNE T. PEABODY
PHOTOS BY JANE DOVE JUNEAU

You open your eyes slowly, roll over and yawn...Have you been transported back in time to the Ming Dynasty, you wonder. You're in an ancient, heirloom Chinese canopy bed. Pillows and quilts made of rare fabrics cover you.

*"I have a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore, Toto."*

No, it's not Kansas. And it's not China. This fantastic antique bed is in the Emperor's room of Mammoth's newest Bed & Breakfast, the White Horse Inn. This elite B&B offers two other unique rooms to board the discriminating traveler.

"We came up here with the idea of making the most exclusive and best Bed & Breakfast in the Eastern Sierra," said owner Russ Lloyd in a sure tone that leaves no doubt that he and his wife Diann succeeded.

Lloyd, a Southern California contractor, and Diann, a successful designer from Palm Springs and Boston, have been married less than a year, but they are already going places.

They closed escrow on this large house on Old Mammoth Road in January of '92, moved in during February, and in less than four months transformed a family home into a fantasy.

Edged by the dense woods near Mammoth Creek, they wanted to make this home a unique retreat. In keeping with their surroundings, the Lloyds have paid homage to Mammoth Lakes with their decor.

The spectacular Emperor room recognizes the thriving Chinese community which lived and worked in the gold mines of this area. Dominating this exotic room, which glows turquoise from the rich paint on the walls and the plush carpet underfoot, is the heirloom wedding bed from a wealthy Chinese family. Brought from China by the Lloyds, this bed was once handed down to the first-born son of each generation on his wedding day.

Everywhere you look in this room, you'll see some special Oriental trinket or curio. Matching turquoise robes hang in the closet, begging to be lounged in after a rough day skiing, hiking or for just hanging around the White Horse Inn's billiard room.

If you'd rather have romance than adventure, the Blizzard Room is for you. Named

for the abundance of snow known to fall in the Sierra, Diann Lloyd cleverly used white on white in the plastering of the walls and fabrics to create a feeling of being in a soft, swirling, warm blizzard.

While guests in the Blizzard Room will fall into a French feather bed at night after a day's diversions, those in the Tribal Room bunk together. Decorated to honor the wild west, the Tribal Room is like no bunkhouse on the Ponderosa. The walls are covered in rawhide, the each of the single beds are covered with Native American blankets and hand loomed covered pillows. Paiute and cowboy artwork and pottery sprinkle this room ideal for singles or for the children of couples enjoying the more luxurious Emperor Room and Blizzard Room.

All three rooms are on the first floor with the large communal billiards room. This room features television, video, fireplace and a fully-equipped kitchen for guests who might want to prepare their own meals.

Breakfast is on the Lloyds, in true B&B fashion. However, in keeping with the fashion of the house, it's also done in a truly

opulent style. Muffins, breads, pastries cover the island in the kitchen. Guests nibble on these off china, sipping coffee or tea, while awaiting full meals.

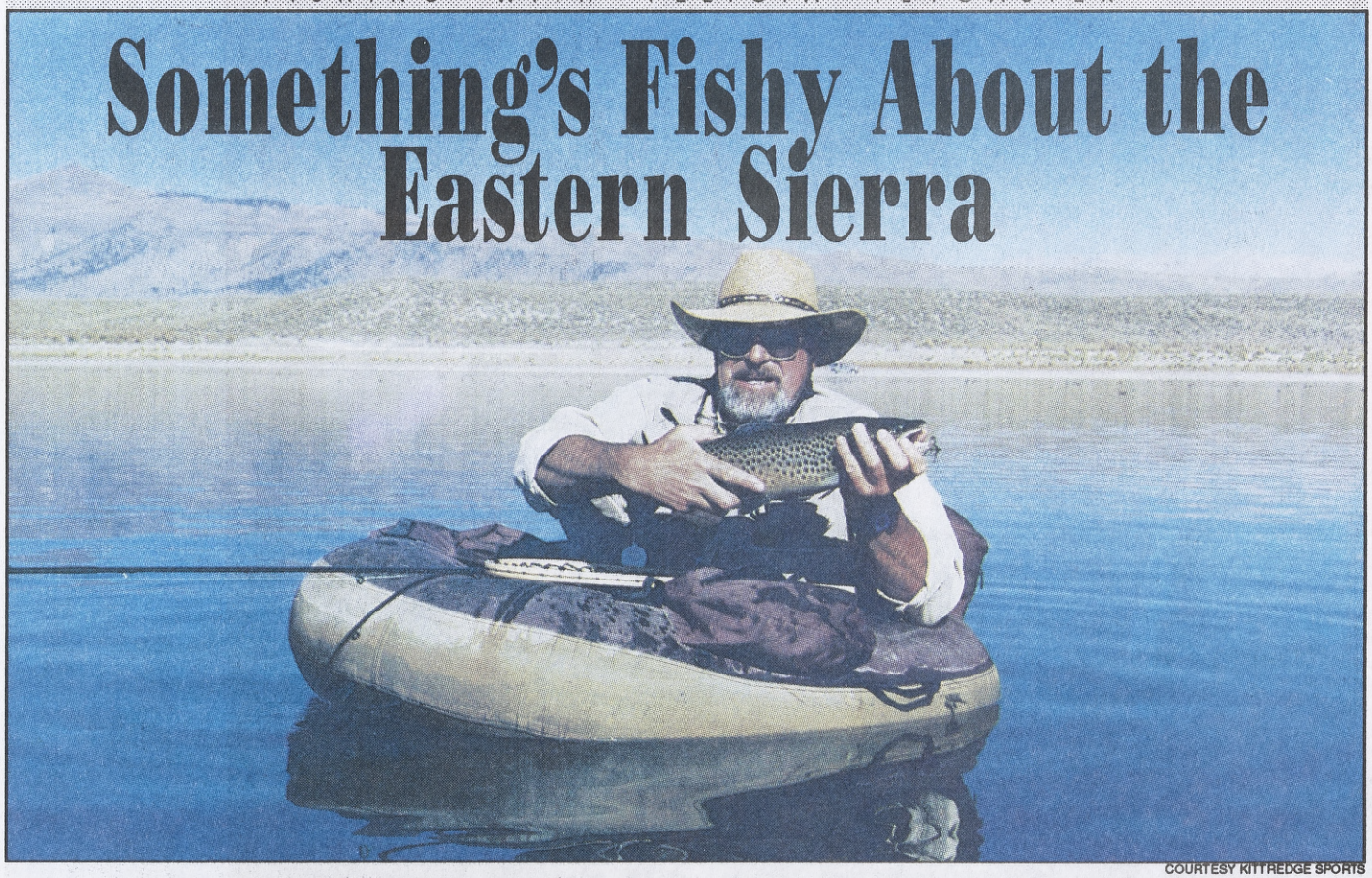
"We'll make almost anything they want," explained Diann Lloyd, her hand sweeping the impressive, country-style kichen. "Anything from Belgian waffles, to steak and eggs, to Eggs Benedict. We love to cook. Russ and I kind of have a cooking competition going."

The Lloyds also provide their guests with wine, cheese and appetizers in the evenings when they return from their day's activities. Guests informally gather and exchange notes, often on the padded white banquette in the living room. A lovely antique piano shawl covers the table in front of the banquette, allowing guests to put down drinks and snacks, thus freeing up their hands to indicate the size of "the one that got away."

There is one drawback, though, to all this pampering, high-living and luxury. The Lloyds of the White Horse Inn won't have any trouble getting their guests to return, no.

But they may have trouble getting them to leave. *MS*

# Something's Fishy About the Eastern Sierra



COURTESY KITTREDGE SPORTS

*Bob Waggoner, manager of Sierra Recreation Associates, operating Crowley Lake.*

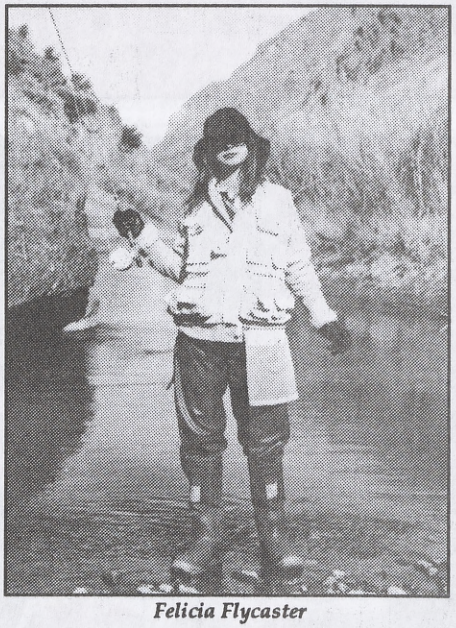
BY FELICIA FLYCASTER

The ski poles are packed away and the fishing pole is out to stay. Another long winter gone, and the thrill of catching large trout lies ahead in a long Mammoth Summer.

And you know as soon as you think you have all the gear to lip-lock one of these browns, bows or brooks on your favorite bait, something better, brighter, or bigger appears on the market to lure us — as well as the fish — to try something new and different. But, hey, I've been quite content eating apple pie and pizza for the last 30-something years — why change now? Because we would rather be fishing than almost anything else. Simple.

Set your wheels south on Hwy 395 from Mammoth Lakes for about 15 minutes at the speed limit and there will be **Crowley Lake** on the east. Bring the entire family, since there are plenty of fish to fool with your various flies, lures and baits. Check with fishing regulations, as they do change during the season.

The lake gets power-packed with several species of stocked rainbows. It's not like finding a needle in a haystack to catch one of the specially-tagged fish that the California Department of Fish and Game planted. If you are so lucky to lip-lock onto one of these fin-clipped fish, spread the news to every friend and foe you ever knew, as well as the folks at the Crowley Lake Fish Camp Store.



*Felicia Flycaster*

Your fish tales are pretty important — especially around the dinner table with the 3-pounder and bottle of cakebread Chardonnay. Perch tacos are the best, with a little of that "not New York City" salsa. (Perch can be found in Crowley a little later in the season; the salsa can be found at Vons any season.)

As far as baits go for the lake, inflated night crawlers are always tasty treats for trout. Pump these puppies up after you wiggle their way on a #12 worm hook with a light 4-foot, 2- to 3-pound test leader. Trollers have always whet the appetite of trophy-sized fish using the #5 to #9 black-and-gold or black-and-silver Rapalas. A #2 Bikini needlefish is an excellent attractor pattern among the fish, as well as the fishermen.

Float-tubing with flies is not just for the fall. There's a bunch of fish hungry for humpys early in the season, which is closely followed by another favorite — elk hair caddis. McGee Bay is a *yo-hot momma* spot for still fisherpeople. The channel rarely is a letdown for trollers. For the shore fisherfolks, North Landing or Leighton Springs is a nice place to plop down a picnic basket on a blanket and plop in the water one of those Sierra sundaes — a marshmallow and salmon egg combination.

How many times have you heard, "Where is Mammoth Lake?" My adding machine only goes up to six digits. The matter of fact is, fishing folks really are looking for either their way back to San Jose or the Lakes Basin. The area consists of *five* lakes that you can drive to, and several more a short hike away. Your tackle box ought to be loaded with Panther Martin lures, Power Bait and dry flies. ▶

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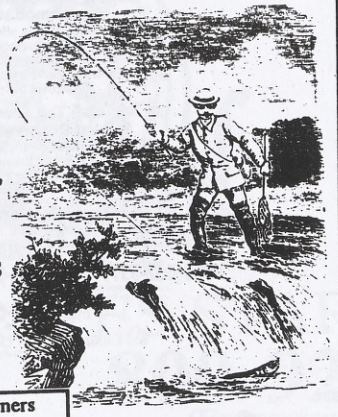

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And now one of the Eastern Sierra's best fishing holes is getting even better! You'll be pleased with the new "Crowley Lake Fish Camp," operated by Sierra Recreation Associates (SRA) of Mammoth Lakes, under lease from the DWP. Call SRA at (619) 934-8299 for information.

DWP Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

The first lake you come to, heading more or less west from town, is **Twin Lakes**. Besides getting lucky with your rod and reel at the upper lake of Twin with Kastmaster lures, you can also get lucky at the wedding chapel there with a tux and a large diamond ring. The only motors you can hear on this lake is the motor mouths of fishermen full of stories of the day's catch.

**Lake Mary** is the most popular of the lakes — whether the reason is that it's the largest of the lakes, with excellent trolling, or the fact that it has great ice skating in the winter is still a mystery to me. Shore fishing here is awesome with a popular lure named Mepps. I'd have to say the second runner-up in the pageant is Zeek's garlic floating cheese. (Who's got the breath mints?) You can really fall in love with the lake if you're fishing from shore at the inlet from Lake George, which we will talk about next. The cove near the Lake Mary Store is also a fine piece of water the trout call home... not for long though — it's barbecue time.

**George** is not only the name of my second cousin, but it's the name of a beautiful lake below Crystal Crag. The backside is full of thousands (I've told myself a million times not to exaggerate) of brookies and rainbows. Dry flies in the irresistible patterns as the male and his mate — the female adams are very nice to use (and in my case, lose) sometimes. Lure your limit with white-and-black roostertails. Most of these fish are rainbows pushing pounder size.

First place in the Sierra that Felicia caught a trout — honest to God — was in **Lake Mamie**. It has a special spot in my heart as well as the creel. Row, row, row the boat in this lake in search of Big Mo, with black gnat flies or something green. Olive matukas, green Zeek's cheese, or green roostertail lures are in this mean green category.

Save your time as well as your swimsuit for **Horseshoe Lake**. I've heard of large brookies being caught here — I'd stick to catching a little sun reading a trashy love story novel. You didn't hear it from me, though.

*First place in the Sierra that Felicia caught a trout — honest to God — was in Lake Mamie.*

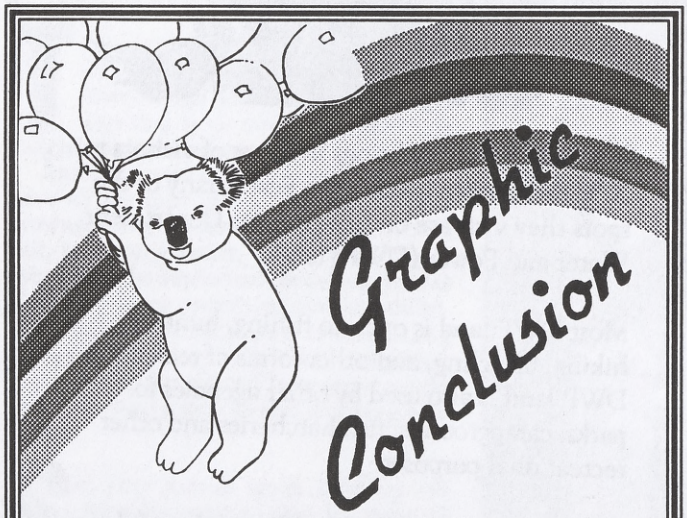
▼▼▼

A hop, skip and jump from the Vons fish market is the hands-on fishing spot at **Mammoth Creek**. Next time you're in the garden clipping flowers, collect some red worms. Use the flowers for the dining table centerpiece; use the worms for the trout... or is it the other way around? Bushwhacking is also a sport that can be found along parts of the creek. Dot the water with the "soft but satisfying" red Pautzke salmon eggs. (Soft, yes, but who judges the satisfying part? ...My bottom dollar bet is fishermen with creels full of their limits of 10- to 12-inch rainbows.) The trout in Mammoth Creek call the slow-moving pool water their own playground. Panther Martin lures can always swing up some action.

**Hot Creek** has been written about in some of the most popular fishing magazines of all times, and *Mammoth Summer* magazine is no exception. We'll tell you. This catch and release area produces some of the finest flyfishing in the Sierra, or almost anywhere else. It's a super place for the beginner to learn casting without worrying about hooking up with a sagebush *behind* while in hopes of hooking up with a 14-inch brown ahead. Fisherfolks here, by the way, are not on the bank on their hands and knees praying for Big Mo to bite their fly but are sneaking up to the water so Big Mo will bite their fly. What we will do in this funny sport of fishing. Note Hot Creek is *only* catch-and-release, etc.

The best time to fish is when you're not at work. The best place to fish is in the water. And the best bait to use is a 40mm hand grenade. If these aren't the answers you wish to hear, and you want to know the real ones — please do come into one of the dozen or so fishing stores in the area stocked with information on all you need to know about fishing, and maybe more. Best of all, have fun. As if I needed to tell you.

*Good fishin' from Felicia. MS*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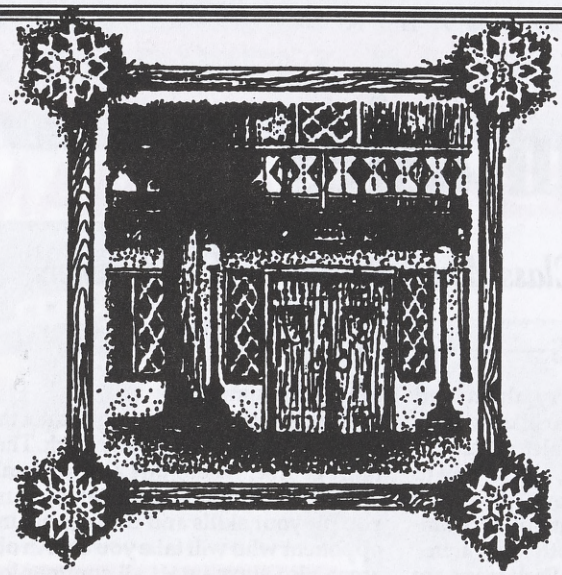

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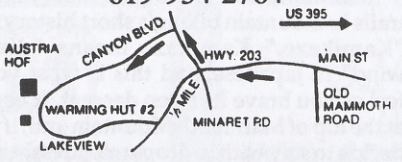


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# Fat Tire Fantasies

## *Mammoth Mountain Transforms Into a World-Class Mountain Bike Park in Summer*

BY ED MYERS

JANE DOVE JUNEAU PHOTOS

*Fierce competition between riders going cross-country.*

California is the mountain biking capital of the West. Beginning in Marin County during the '70s with balloon tires, coaster brakes and just a select few "over the curb and off the road" biking enthusiasts, those who love the rugged ride have made it one of America's newest and fastest growing sports.

And what better place to bounce a bomb-proof bike around in than the rugged splendor of the Eastern Sierra? The single-track and dirt road riding in the Mammoth Lakes area is first-class. Trails wind through dense forests, crest spectacular vistas, and allow for the solitary exhilaration that this two-wheeled sport was founded upon.

Both the Mammoth Mountain Bike Park and a new public trail system combine for 110 miles of marked mountain bike tracks, ranging the gamut from easy family cruises to radical terrain for the rock-shockers to bang around on.

For the past three years, in the summer, the Mammoth Mountain Ski Area has transformed itself into a Mountain Bike Park (this year, the season starts July 2) with roughly 50 miles of trail riding over its 3,500 acres. This is where you will find the legal singletrack riding in the eastern Sierra.

Riders may hop aboard the Gondola to carry them and their bikes to Mid-Chalet or further up, all the way to the 11,053-foot summit of Mammoth Mountain.

Park maps are available, and a good idea for first-time visitors to get the layout down, although all trails are marked by name as well as with a visual cue as to difficulty. Water is also available at locations on-trail, but filling water bottles at home guarantees no water shortages.

The ambience of the Mammoth Mountain Bike Park is a 180-degree turnaround from the Ski Area in mid ski season. The only sounds during the summer are your own tires turning and the chain jumping gears. It is quite possible that you may never encounter another rider anywhere on these singletrack trails.

Good beginner rides include "Paper Route" and "Beach Cruiser." A vast view of Mammoth's newest lake (a man-made lake behind Mid-Chalet for the purpose of supplying the Mountain's snowmaking system with water) is available from "Chains Required." Situated around the scenic lake are picnic tables, and many of the upper mountain trails converge here so riders can rest and quench their thirst while in the high-altitude sun. From here you have a heartstoppingly beautiful view down into Mammoth and the meadows, Crowley Lake, Mono Lake, the White Mountains, and even across to Nevada. It's truly breathtaking.

Mammoth has one of the most famous trails in mountain biking's short history: the "Kamikaze." Kamikaze means "divine wind" in Japanese, and this is what you'll feel as you brave its steep descent. It begins at the top of Mammoth Mountain and, if you decide to stay with it, drops relentlessly until the rider rolls to a stop at Main Lodge. The trail is the course for many of the most exciting professional mountain biking downhill events this summer.

Singletrack riding, though, is not the only activity available at the Bike Park. There is a BMX course, where dirt and air freaks can wind-out the laps. A dual slalom course lets you pit your skills and courage against any opponent who will take you on. An obstacle arena also stays intact all summer long for those who enjoy the challenge of dancing and hopping without having their feet leave the pedals.

Mammoth Mountain also offers a full-service bike shop on the premises. Rental bikes are available, as are biking clinics for those who may not have ridden a mountain bike before and are unsure, and for people wishing to learn riding techniques for a more challenging terrain.

There is a new addition this year to mountain biking around Mammoth, complementing the Mammoth Mountain facility. A joint effort between the U.S. Forest Service, the Town of Mammoth Lakes and the Mammoth Lakes Mountain Biking Association has produced a town trail system and map.

Eight trails, ranging from an easy five-mile loop through Shady Rest to a strenuous 12.5-mile track through Smokey Bear Flat, will appeal to riders of all ages and ▶

*Mountain bikes ride up the Gondola in the Mountainbike Park.*

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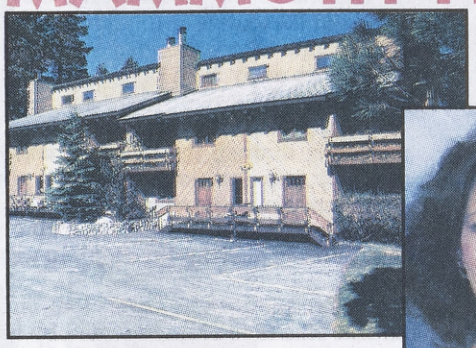
## MAMMOTH PINES



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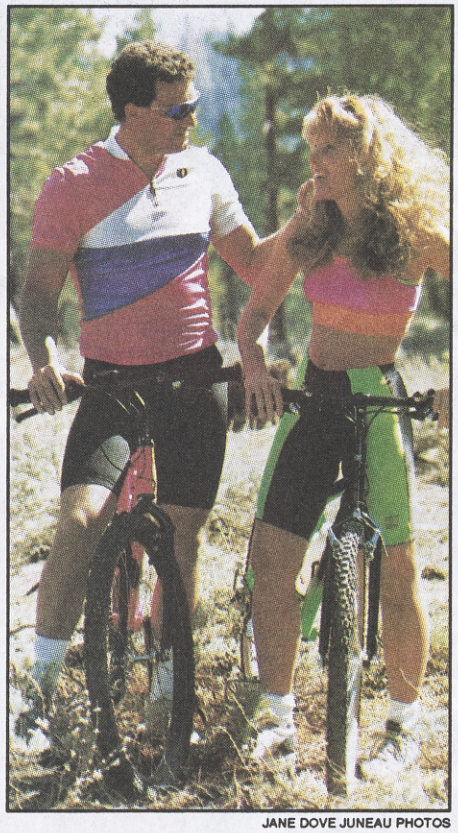
abilities. Maps with detailed profiles and rider notes are available throughout the Town of Mammoth Lakes (at the Visitors Center and sports shops), Mammoth Mountain Bike Park/Mammoth Mountain Inn, and the U.S. Forest Service Visitor's Center.

Rides to the Inyo Craters, Minaret Summit, and the Mammoth Knolls are well-marked with the signs which include trail name and rough grading outlines. The trail maps provide specifics for each loop including information on water availability, bathrooms, parking, and trailhead locations.

One of the most popular family rides is the five-mile loop through Shady Rest Park. The combination of singletrack and dirt roads makes a great tour for all ages and riding levels. Darting around pine trees while the soft trail winds through the flats of the forest can turn anyone on to offroad bicycling, even those who haven't perched on a bike saddle in 20 years.

Mountain biking has become such a far-reaching summer activity in Mammoth Lakes that many of the sporting goods stores who rent skis during the winter assemble, service, and rent quality mountain bikes. Just as they do when renting skis, the shops take into consideration size, weight, age, and riding levels when assigning a bike.

Tours may be a good way to get acquainted with the ridable off-road area. Mammoth Adventure Connection offers a guide service, in addition to lodging packages, for tours in the Bike Park and on public trails, as well as shuttle/rides to destinations like Bodie and Reds Lake.



JANE DOVE JUNEAU PHOTOS

Safety an important factor to consider in any sporting activity. Due to uneven terrain and its surfaces, and the possible high speeds mountain biking throws at the rider, helmets are strongly suggested on public trails and required at Mammoth Mountain Bike Park. Plenty of water and snacks are also necessary. Carrying a kit of bike tools is also recommended. No one wants to get stranded with a flat literally miles away from the nearest inner tube or patch kit.

It is deceptively easy to lose your way while riding through the forest, so *always* carry a map, pay attention to the signs, and if you're unsure of the way home — turn around and follow your own tracks. It's probably more likely than the direction you were heading.

There are more miles to explore on a mountain bike than are designated by the marked trail system, but remember that almost all the land you are riding on is public land. The Forest Service asks that all riders remain on designated trails only and please "tread lightly." You're out here, mainly, for nature's beauty and the only way it can be preserved is if you do your part.

A mountain bike offers freedom, a release from the confinements and routines of daily life. It is a chance to silently roll through the woods, challenge the body with the uphills and live a little on the ragged edge with the downhills. It is a feeling that simply must be experienced. ***MS***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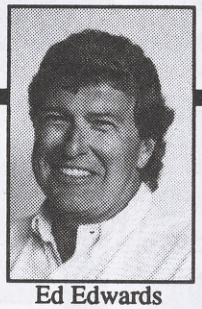
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DAVE STRUMSKY PHOTO

*Budweiser Clydesdales at Mule Days in Bishop, May 23.*

JANE DOVE JUNEAU PHOTO

*Face painting in the park.*

*Mammoth Motocross, June 25-28*

# MAY

**21-25 BISHOP MULE DAYS**

After more than 30 years of increasing popularity, they've expanded the *world's largest mule exhibition* to add even another day. Mule rodeo-style events, skilled riding and jumping events, exhibitions, the world's largest non-motorized parade, dances and a concert by the Forester Sisters. Call 873-8405

**21 CHAMBER FORUM**

"Candidates Night," sponsored by the Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce, 934-2884

**22-25 FRONTIER PACK TRAIN CATTLE DRIVE**

From Bishop to Long Valley. Call 648-7701

**23 CLEAN SWEEP SWAP MEET**

Minaret Village Shopping Center, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Contact the Town Parks & Recreation Department, 934-8983.

**23 HANS GEORGE SLALOM**

Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, 934-2571

**23-24 MEMORIAL DAY VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT**

It's the first of the season, a two-person open. Sponsored by Grumpy's at Grumpy Park. Call 934-8587

**30-31 CALIFORNIA SKATE TO SKI CHALLENGE**

Two days of rollerblading clinics and races. You could end up qualifying for the state finals for the California Skate to Ski Challenge, held in Mammoth at the end of August. Learn to skate safe and street smart! Call 934-2400

**31 MINOR MADNESS IN MAMMOTH**

Sodas, juices and bands at Whiskey Creek for ages 13-19, with ID. Sponsored by the Town Parks and Rec Dept. Call 934-8983

# JUNE

**1 MAMMOTH FITNESS AND GYM CENTER**

Weights and fitness training facilties; gymnasium is available for basketball and volleyball. Open five evenings per week to anyone 13 years and over. Passes available. Call 934-8983

**4-7 REDS MEADOW PACK STATION CATTLE DRIVE**

Call 934-2345

**5-14 FRONTIER PACK TRAIN HORSE DRIVE**

Divided into two halves: from Round Valley (near Bishop) **June 5-7;** then on to June Lake, **June 12-14**. Call 648-7701

**6 SPRING FLING GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Snowcreek Golf Course. Call 934-6633

**6 FREE FISHING DAY**

No license needed at lakes or streams in the whole state. Anglers must adhere to all other laws and regulations. Sponsored by California Department of Fish and Game.

**6 MONTE CARLO NIGHT**

A fun-filled evening of Western-style gaming and prizes at Stogie's. Proceeds benefit local scholarships. Sponsored by the Mammoth Lakes Women's Club. Call 934-1787

**6-18 MAMMOTH LAKES PACK OUTFIT SPRING HORSE DRIVE**

Divided into two halves: the Owens Valley Drive is from **June 6-10;** and the final leg, the Mammoth Lakes Drive, is from **June 13-18**. Call 934-2434

**7 MAMMOTH TOUR OF HOMES**

Twelve of the most interesting homes in Mammoth have opened their doors to the public. Sponsored by Mammoth Lakes Christian Preschool Parents Group. Call for tickets, 934-3405

**8-12 JUNIOR GOLF CAMP**

Snowcreek Golf Course. Call 934-6633

**12-14 RED'S MEADOW PACK STATION HORSE DRIVE**

From Bishop to Mammoth. Call 934-2345

▶

# Skate

## *Safe & Street Smart!*

Footloose Sports of Mammoth Lakes and co-sponsors will be coordinating a Statewide Dual Slalom In-Line Skate Series this summer.

The Series consists of six dates at three different locations throughout California. The seventh and final event will be held in Mammoth Lakes incorporating the Dual Slalom Series Finals with a 5K Fun Roll, 10K, Sprints, 5000m Relays, and RollerHockey Matches.

Dual Slalom Series in Mammoth Lakes are May 30-31 and July 18-19; August 29-30 is the "Let the Good Times Roll" "California Skate to Ski Dual Slalom Finals"

The Mammoth Mountain Race Department and other professional trainers will instruct skaters on how to Skate Smart and safely on the city streets as well as teaching different techniques on turning, braking and negotiating slalom gates. Regardless of your ability there will be a class level for all skaters.

Upon completion of the clinic on each Saturday afternoon there will be a qualification round for the Sunday event. Sunday's program will begin with more clinicing for all participants and then the ever-popular Dual Slalom Elimination round for those who qualified on Saturday.

To qualify for the State Finals in Mammoth Lakes on August 29-30, one must attend and qualify at one of the events held over the course of the summer. The first four skaters in each category will go to the State Finals.

The Series is loaded with prizes in different categories for Men, Women, and Children, as well as learning how to improve your skating with the help of trained professionals. It should be lots of fun for participants and spectators alike.

Get In-Line with what is shaping up to be an exciting summer of events.

For more information write to 934-2400.

# Nature

**MAMMOTH RANGER DISTRICT**

Visit the Forest Service Visitor's Center, located off Hwy 395 on Hwy 203 just before the town of Mammoth.

For exact times, topics and location of the following activites, call 924-5500.

Programs offered weekly, July thru August:

**TALKS** - Hot Creek Fish Hachery Tour, Place Names of the Sierra, Wildlife of Mammoth

**CYCLING** - Cycles of the Forest

**FISHING** - Stalking the Stockers

**CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS** - Hug-A-Tree, Junior Rangers Evening Programs, Sharing Nature with Children

**WALKS** - Mammoth City, Mammoth Consolidated Gold Mine Tour, Nomads of the Great Basin, Panorama Dome Walk, Wildflower Walk

**EVENING PROGRAMS** - Campfire Programs

**VISITOR CENTER PROGRAMS**

**USFS MONO LAKE RANGER DISTRICT & MONO LAKE TUFA STATE RESERVE**

Visit the new Mono Basin Scenic Area Visitor Center, located on Hwy 395 just north of the town of Lee Vining.

For exact times, topics and location of the following activites, call 647-6572.

Programs offered weekly, often more than once, June 21 to September 30:

**TALKS** - Visitor Center Patio Talks, Coffee With a Ranger

**WALKS** - South Tufa Walk, Panum Crater, Black Point, Silver Lake/Oh! Ridge, Bennettville

**AUTO TOURS** - Auto Tour of Mono Craters

**CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS** - Children's Activities

**EVENING PROGRAMS** - Visitor Center Evening Programs, Campfire Programs, South Tufa Star Talks ***MS***

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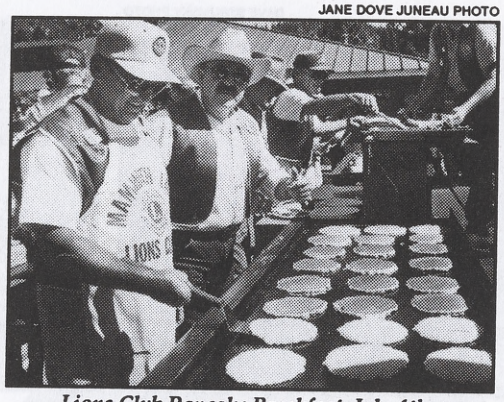
JANE DOVE JUNEAU PHOTO



*Lions Club Pancake Breakfast, July 4th.*

**13 MAMMOTH MUSEUM AND HISTORIC PRESERVE**

Grand Opening. Open 7 days/week, 11 a.m.—6 p.m. 934-6918

**13 TOWN FISHING FESTIVAL**

Saturday, the Festival will be for kids 15 and under, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Sponsored by the Town of Mammoth Lakes. Call 934-2712

**14 MAMMOTH LAKES FISHING DERBY**

Everybody gets a chance at $4,000 in prizes for the best fish. Sponsored by the Town of Mammoth Lakes. Call 934-2712

**14 FREE OPENING DAY AT WHITMORE POOL**

Games, swimming, BBQ, fun in the sun. Noon to 4 p.m.
After today, open every day afternoons. Sponsored by the Town Parks & Recreation Department. Call 934-8983

**14 MINOR MADNESS IN MAMMOTH**

Sodas, juices and bands at Whiskey Creek for ages 13-19, with ID. Sponsored by the Town Parks and Rec Dept. Call 934-8983

**19 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GOLF TOURNEY**

At Snowcreek Athletic Club. Call 934-8511

**19-20 PARENTS' NIGHT OUT — KIDS CAMPING ADVENTURE**

Parents get a break, kids get dinner, snacks, breakfast and camping out at Horseshoe Lake. Sponsored by the Town Parks and Rec Dept. Call 934-8983

**20-21 "OLD TIMERS" MOTOCROSS RACES**

A yearly tradition where veteran motocross racers from all over the country gather for a weekend of veteran racing skills on Father's Day. Call 934-2571

**21 FATHER'S DAY VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT**

A two-person open tournament. Sponsored by Grumpy's at Grumpy Park. Call 934-8587

**22 HIKING AROUND THE MAMMOTH LAKES FOR KIDS**

Hikes on special Mondays for kids 1st through 6th grades. Pre-registration mandatory. Sponsored by the Town Parks and Rec Dept. Call 934-8983

**25 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GOLF TOURNEY MIXER & AWARDS**

Call 934-2884

**25-28 25TH ANNUAL MAMMOTH MOUNTAIN MOTOCROSS**

*[See "2-Wheelers" Box, pg. 41]*

**27-28 MAMMOTH TOWN CHAMPIONSHIPS VOLLEYBALL**

Open to all levels of play. Sponsored by Grumpy's at Grumpy Park. Call 934-8587

**28 EASTERN SIERRA TREASURES SWAP MEET**

Held at Performing Arts Center (aka The Tent) at Warming Hut II. Call 934-8983

**28 MINOR MADNESS**

Sodas, juices and bands at Whiskey Creek for ages 13-19, with ID. Sponsored by the Town Parks and Rec Dept. Call 934-8983

**29 EASTERN SIERRA JUNIOR GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Snowcreek Golf Course. Call 934-6633

# JULY

Quest For Light Photography presents a two-day flower photography workshop this month. Call 935-4557 ▶

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### COMMUNITY SUMMER TOURS

Sponsored by the Town Parks & Recreation Department.

Wildflower Hikes - Monday mornings, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Coldwater Campground at Emerald Lake Trailhead; starting 7/6

Three Lakes Hike - Tuesday mornings, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Lake George parking lot near restrooms; starting 7/7

Campfire Programs - Monday evenings, 8-9 p.m., USFS Visitor's Center Amphitheater; starting 7/6

For locations and further information, contact the Town's Recreation Department at 934-8983.

### 2 MAMMOTH MOUNTAIN BIKE PARK — OPENING DAY

Call Mammoth Mountain 934-2571

### 3-5 15TH ANNUAL ARTS AND CRAFTS FAIR

Bank of America parking lot on the corner of Old Mammoth and Main Street. 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. each day. Sponsored by Gallery In The Pines. Call 934-9501

### 3-6 FIRECRACKER OPEN VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

A two-person open. A one-day mixed-doubles tournament will also be held. Sponsored by Grumpy's at Grumpy Park. Also, music Friday night by Westbound. Call 934-8587

### 3 BOB ZANEY COMEDY OUTLET

From L.A., three great comedians entertaining at Performing Arts Center at 8:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Town Parks and Rec Dept. Call 934-8983

### 4-5 15TH QUILT SHOW & COMMUNITY QUILT RAFFLE

Quilts will be on display at the brand new library, on Forest Trail next to the Community Center. There will also be a raffle, benefitting the library, for this year's community quilt "Snowflakes II." Raffle tickets available 10 days before the show at Vons or the library, then at the show. Drawing at 4 p.m. Sunday at the library. Sponsored by Friends of the Library. Call 934-4777

### 4 4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS

The Mammoth Lakes Rotary Club organizes the Sierra's *biggest* fireworks show along the shores of Crowley Lake. Plan to take dinner with you and relax in the clear cool surroundings of a High Sierra evening. Things start with a bang at about 8 p.m. Call 934-7451

### 4 LIONS CLUB PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Get your holiday started off right with delicious stomach-filling food and good folks at this hometown event put on by the Mammoth Lakes Lions Club. Pancakes start flipping at 7 a.m. in the Mammoth Mall parking lot. Call 934-4168

### 4 4TH OF JULY PARADE

Get your parade-watching spot early. This really is a lot of fun, and probably unlike any parade you've ever seen before! The parade starts at 11 a.m. and begins at Mammoth Creek, marches toward town along Old Mammoth Road, then turns left up Main Street. Sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. Call 934-2884

### 4 8TH CHILI COOK-OFF

Sponsored by Grumpy's at Grumpy Park. Begins at 9 a.m. There's a $2,500 purse at stake. Music outside by Westbound starting at noon. Call 934-8587

### 4 MAMMOTH LAKES 2ND ANNUAL CRUISE-IN (CAR SHOW)

Call 924-2277

### 4 KIDS GAMES

Good old-fashioned kids games and fun for the whole family after the parade! FREE! From 1 to 4 p.m. at Shady Rest Park. Call 934-8983

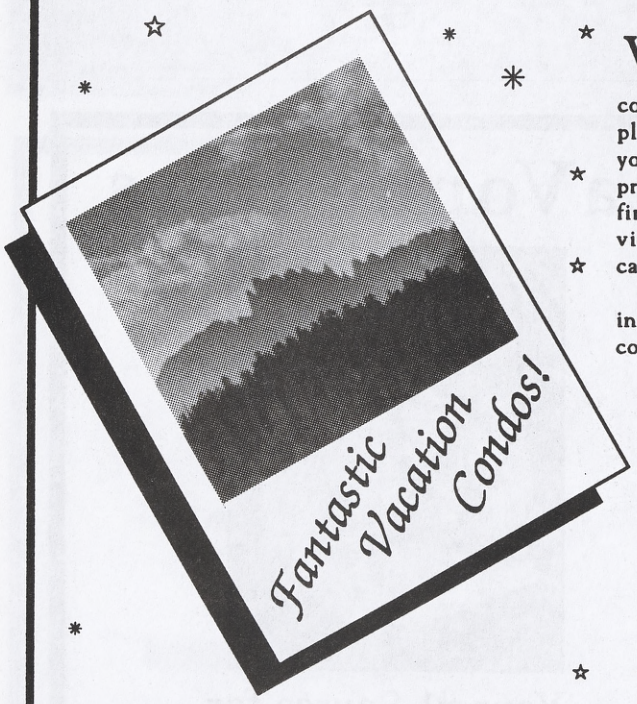
### 4 TEEN POOL PARTY

Whitmore Pool & BBQ reserved just for teens, 3-6 p.m. Sponsored by Town Parks and Rec Dept. Call 934-8983

### 5 MINOR MADNESS IN MAMMOTH

Sodas, juices and bands at Whiskey Creek for ages 13-19, with ID. Sponsored by the Town Parks and Rec Dept.


Get the Star Treatment

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**7 COMMUNITY STAR GAZE**
Bring a flashlight to the Mammoth Museum, 8:30

**9-12 4TH ANNUAL MAMMOTH LAKES JAZZ JUBILEE**
*[See "Jazz" Box, pg. 42]* Call 934-2478

**10-12 SENIORS' TENNIS TOURNAMENT**
Snowcreek Athletic Club. Call 934-8511

**11 15TH ANNUAL LIONS CLUB ROAD RUNS**
5K Run, 5K Walk, or the "Bill Rolls Memorial Highest 10K in California Race." All races start at 8 a.m., location to be announced. There will also be a 1-Mile Fun Run for kids ages 5-12. Call 934-4168

**13-17 JUNIOR GOLF CAMP**
Snowcreek Golf Course. Call 934-6633

**16 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MIXER**
Call 934-2884

**16 MAMMOTH DANCE CLUB**
Polish off your dancing skills with free lessons, practice for the Big Band Dance (July 17). Sponsored by Town Parks

# 2-Wheelers

## 25th Mammoth Mtn. Motocross - June 25 - 28

Four days of world class competition on one of this country's best courses—if not the most scenic. Amateurs and pro motocross racers mix it up in the dirt. Take the FREE shuttle from town. For information, call (619) 934-2571

## National Championship Series
## UCI-Grundig World Cup - July 23 - 26

NORBA-sanctioned event hosting mountain bike international competition. Largest race on the mountain bike circuit, with something for everyone. Bicycle and sports EXPO, shows and fun rides, and the (in)famous "Kamikaze" Downhill. Held on Mammoth Mountain. Call 934-2571
July 22 - Registration
July 23 - Uphill & Dual Slalom Qualifier
July 24 - Cross country (lower cats') & Dual Slalom
July 25 - Observed Trials Invitational & Cross-Country (expert, veteran & master men) Grundig-UCI World Cup Cross-Country (Pro/Elite)
July 26 - "Kamikaze" Downhill
For information, call (619) 934-2571

## The Reebok Eliminator - August 1

The hottest race in mountain biking, where the world's best racers challenge each other, side-by-side, for 3.7-miles at speeds of over 50 mph down the country's most prestigious downhill course. Ride gondola to 11,053-ft. summit to watch the Kamikaze Course fun. The final male and female winners will have raced the course 10 times to collect their share of the $25,000 cash purse. Concert afterwards. All held on Mammoth Mountain.
For information, call (619) 934-2571

## Mammoth Cycling Classic - August 19 - 23

Professional and Amateur road racers in one of the country's most scenic settings, racing for over $50,000 in cash and prizes.
Aug 19 Prologue/Time trial & Mammoth Circuit Race
Aug 20 Tour Beneath the Peaks
Aug 21 Altitude 9000
Aug 22 Whiskey Creek Criterium
Aug 23 Tour of Mammoth Lakes
For information, call (619) 934-2571 ***MS***


WHISKEY CREEK

*Mammoth's best restaurant for 20 years...*

*and there's a reason why!*

*Great food, friendly service and casual atmosphere. The menu changes frequently while featuring many old favorites. Many entrees are hardwood grilled, varied, and imaginative. The wine list is, 'outstanding' in both quality and value. If this isn't enough, there is dancing in Mammoth's most popular bar.*

*Located at Main St. and Minaret Rd.*

*Call 934-2555. Reservations suggested.*

Angel's RESTAURANT

Angel's. The most recommended family restaurant in Mammoth. Not your run-of-the-mill list of burgers and fries, but full of original, well-prepared specialties...from Mexican to good ol' American barbecue. Barbecued-rib lovers will find a home here... and home is the feeling you get. Warm fireplace, large portions and friendly service are their signature. Save room for the famous chocolate hot 'n gooey. Complete bar service including 60-imported beers. Lunch, dinner, and take-out.

On Main St. and Sierra Blvd., next to Motel 6.
Call 934-RIBS

JANE DOVE JUNEAU PHOTO

*Jazz Jubilee, July 9-12.*

and Rec Dept. Call 934-8983

**17 BIG BAND DANCE**

Dance to the returning favorites, the "Melody Makers." 8-11:30 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center. Sponsored by Town Parks and Rec Dept. Call 934-8983

**18-19 CHART HOUSE 10K RUN**

Also a 1-Mile Fun Run for kids ages 5-12. Kids arrive by 8:30 a.m. For all others there is an 8 a.m. starting time on Old Mammoth Road, in front of the Chart House. Call 934-2562

**18-19 CALIFORNIA SKATE TO SKI CHALLENGE**

Two days of rollerblading clinics and races. You could end up qualifying for the state finals for the California Skate to Ski Challenge, held in Mammoth at the end of August. Learn to skate safe and street smart! Call 934-2400

**18-19 SIERRA AMATEUR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Snowcreek Golf Course. Call 934-6633

**19 MINOR MADNESS IN MAMMOTH**

Sodas, juices and bands at Whiskey Creek for ages 13-19, with ID. Sponsored by the Town Parks and Rec Dept. Call 934-8983

**19 VALENTINE RESERVE TOUR**

The Mammoth Hospital Auxiliary hosts this once-a-year-only tour of the amazingly beautiful Valentine Reserve from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call 934-9208

JANE DOVE JUNEAU PHOTO

*Jazz Jubilee, July 9-12.*

**19 EASTERN SIERRA TREASURES/ SUNDAY SWAP MEET**

Held at Performing Arts Center (aka The Tent) at Warming Hut II. Call 934-8983

**22-26 UCI-GRUNDIG WORLD CUP AND NATIONAL MOUNTAIN BIKE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES**

*(See "2-Wheelers" Box, pg. 41)* Call 934-0651

**25-26 MAMMOTH LAKES VOLUNTEER FIREMAN'S PICNIC & CANOE RACES**

At Horseshoe Lake. Sponsored by the Volunteers of the Mammoth Lakes Fire Department. 934-2300

**25 KIDS BICYCLE RACES**

Races for the kids. 10 a.m., on the Mountain. Sponsored by the Town Parks and Rec Dept. Call 934-8983

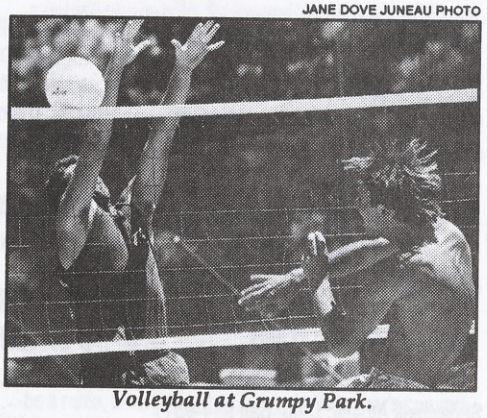
**30 YOSEMITE TRIP FOR KIDS**

Sponsored by the Town Parks and Rec Dept. Call 934-8983

**31 - 8/15 14TH ANNUAL SIERRA SUMMER FESTIVAL**

Opening Night. *[See "Summer Fest" Box, pg. 43]* Call 934-8006, 934-1986

JANE DOVE JUNEAU PHOTO



*Volleyball at Grumpy Park.*

Whit Bronough. Call 935-4557

**GALLERY EXHIBIT**

Mono County Arts Council presents the works of Dee Manning, in its offices inside the Sierra Center Mall. 934-3342

**1-2 JUNIORS' TENNIS TOURNAMENT**

Snowcreek Athletic Club. Call 934-8511

**1-2 WOMEN'S DOUBLES VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT**

Sponsored by Grumpy's, at Grumpy Park. Call 934-8587

**1 REEBOK ELIMINATOR**

*[See "2-Wheeler" Box, pg. 41]* Call 934-2571

**2 MINOR MADNESS IN MAMMOTH**

Sodas, juices and bands at Whiskey Creek for ages 13-19, with ID. Sponsored by the Town Parks and Rec Dept. Call 934-8983

**3-7 JUNIOR GOLF CAMP**

Snowcreek Golf Course. Call 934-6633

**8-9 NATIVE AMERICAN CRAFTS DAY**

Mono County Arts Council sponsors this annual celebration of Eastern Sierra heritage, in Bridgeport. Call 934-3342

**8 SUMMER LUAU PARTY**

Teen party at Whitmore Pool. Food, music; 6-9 p.m. Sponsored by Town Parks and Rec Dept. Call 934-8983

**9 *MAMMOTH TIMES* TRIATHLON AT JUNE LAKE**

A high-altitude, 1K swim, 40K bike, and 10K run Tri-Fed sanctioned triathlon. Start, finish and changeovers take place on June Lake Beach. Call 935-4833

# Jazz

## *Mammoth Lakes Jazz Jubilee*

This year's 4th Annual Jazz Jubilee is so good you'll be hard-pressed to find a reason not to stick around for all of it.

A rollicking, foot-stomping good time in a great High Sierra outdoors setting — that's what it's all about. Our Jubilee brings the best traditional and contemporary-style Dixieland bands in the nation, playing the acoustic style of jazz often called "Dixieland."

The music may have many forms, but it's kept its popularity over the years namely because it's fun.

This year you have a choice of six venues, five within easy walking distance in the North Village area (intersection of Minaret Rd. and Lake Mary Rd.). Great food and drink, too, all in the cool, beautiful Eastern High Sierra. This year, new dance floors and shuttle service provided.

Appearing in this year's lineup: The Black Dogs, Igor's Jazz Cowboys, Blue Street, Chicago Six, Natural Gas, Temple of Folly, Night Blooming Jazzmen, Beth Chorneau Trio, Mike Vax & the Great American Jazz Band, South Market Street, Jazzberry Jam, High Sierra, and more!

For information, call 934-2478 or (800) 367-6572. ***MS***

# AUGUST

Quest For Light Photography will be having a 5-day photography workshop this month. Ride horseback into the eastern Sierra backcountry with instructor

**15 STUMPY-GRUMPY OPEN VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT**

A very popular four-person blind draw. Enter early. Sponsored by Grumpy's, at Grumpy Park. Call 934-8587

**15 SNOWCREEK MEMBERS/ GUESTS GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Snowcreek Golf Course. Call 934-6633

**16 MINOR MADNESS IN MAMMOTH**

Sodas, juices and bands at Whiskey Creek for ages 13-19, with ID. Sponsored by the Town Parks and Rec Dept. Call 934-8983

**16 EVENING FOR FAMILIES**

Two Children's Youtheatre productions with local children. Sponsored by the Town Parks and Rec Dept. Call 934-8983

**19-23 MAMMOTH CYCLING CLASSIC**

*[See "2-Wheeler" Box, pg.41]* Call 934-0651

**21-23 WILDERNESS WEEKEND**

Sixth through 12th graders backpack into Sierra. Transportation, meals, supervision included. Sponsored by Town Parks and Rec Dept. Call 934-8983

**25-26 JUNIOR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Snowcreek Golf Course. Call 934-6633

**26-30 MAMMOTH OPEN TENNIS TOURNAMENT**

Snowcreek Athletic Club. Call 934-8511

**27 WILD WATERS WATER PARK IN SPARKS, NEV**

Kids, grades 1 though 9. Transportation, food, etc. Sponsored by the Town Parks and Rec Dept. Call 934-8983

**28 PERFORMANCE — OUR BOYS STEEL ORCHESTRA**

From Topango and Trinidad, one of the ▶

# Summer Fest

## *Best of the Past and a Glimpse of the Future*

The Sierra Summer Festival, now in its 15th season and long a favorite event of both locals and visitors to the area, will this year feature the best of the past and a glimpse of the future.

Opening the series of concerts in late July will be **The Association**, best known for their hits from the sixties such as "Cherish," "Windy," and "Along Comes Mary." The same weekend will feature **Tim Weisberg**, and then **The Garden Party**, doing the hits made famous by Rick Nelson, Roy Orbison, and John Lennon.

The next week will bring back the **Air Force Band of the Golden West**, one of the favorites of local concert-goers. The **Eastern Sierra Symphony Orchestra** will perform that Friday evening, also in a return engagement. Saturday night will feature comedy in an election year vein with perennial presidential candidate **Pat Paulsen** teamed up with running mate **Tiny Tim** (Tiny Tim?) for a Comedy Night — Campaign '92. Sunday will feature country artists the **Bellamy Brothers**.

The final weekend of tuneful treats begins with **Bordertown**, voted San Diego's best new musical act of 1991. On Friday, Woody Harrelson's band, known as **Manly Moondog and the Kool Kats**, will be appearing. And on Saturday, the **Kingston Trio** will return to the festival stage.

A special treat, particularly for locals, will be the yet to be determined opening acts. Local talent ranges from classic rock to contemporary folk and has always been an important part of the festival lineup.

Some yet to be confirmed possibilities for additional talent include local folksinger Jeff Todd, and Wally Guse's interpretations of hits of the '50s and '60s.

So come on out and enjoy Mammoth's cool summer nights. The festival stage will once again be located under the stars yet with protection from the elements under the megatent of the Performing Arts Center at Warming Hut II. This year's festival runs from July 31 through August 16.

For more information, call (800) 367-6572 or 934-8006. ***MS***


Summer in the Sierra!

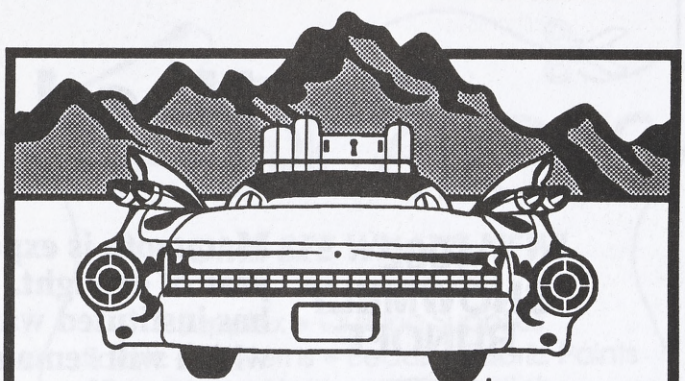
We Offer It All!

Fishing Biking
Hiking Trail Rides
Mountain Bike Races
Road Bike Races
Sierra Summer Festival
Jazz Jubilee
Visit nearby Yosemite, Mono Lake, and Historic Bodie Ghost Town

Low Summer Rates
As Low As $40/Night

For Reservations Call Direct
(619) 934-6792 or
TOLL FREE (800) 421-9799

CHAMONIX
CONDOMINIUMS



VACATION IN MAMMOTH $50
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*Space available. Mention this ad when booking. Credit card required when booking.

(800) 824-5132
for reservations

Sierra Nevada Inn
Box 918, 164 Old Mammoth Rd.,
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
(619) 934-2515 • FAX (619) 934-7319

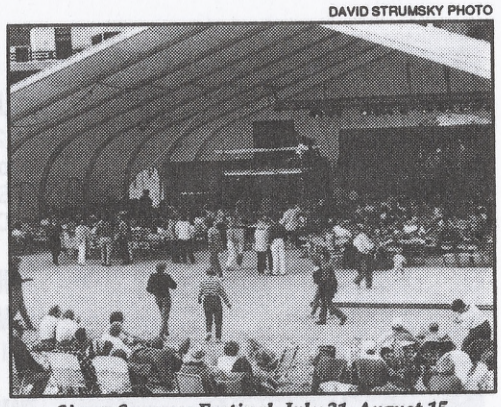
COURTESY SIERRA SUMMER FESTIVAL

*Tha Association, at the Sierra Summer Festival.*

JULIA YOST PHOTO

*Bogidar Avromov, conductor*

DAVID STRUMSKY PHOTO



*Sierra Summer Festival, July 31-August 15*

hottest steel drum bands you've ever heard, or could ever hope to. In the Performing Arts Tent. Call 934-3342

**26 TEEN VOLUNTEER PARTY**

In recognition of teen volunteers. Call 934-8983

**29 PERFORMANCE — CALIFORNIA CAJUN ORCHESTRA**

Spice up your night with tasty cajun & zydeco tunes. In the Performing Arts Tent. Call 934-3342

**29-30 ROLLERBLADE 10K "LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL"**

Almost two hundred contestants will compete in dual slalom, sprints and 4-man relay teams as this year's event also serves as the state finals for the California Skate to Ski Challenge. There will also be a 5K Fun Skate. Call 934-2400

**30 MINOR MADNESS IN MAMMOTH**

Sodas, juices and bands at Whiskey Creek for ages 13-19, with ID. Sponsored by the Town Parks and Rec Dept. Call 934-8983

**30 EASTERN SIERRA TREASURES/SUNDAY SWAP**

Held at Performing Arts Center (aka The Tent) at Warming Hut II. Call 934-8983

# SEPT.

**GALLERY EXHIBIT**

Mono County Arts Council presents the works of **Sara Chubb**, in their offices inside the Sierra Center Mall. 934-3342

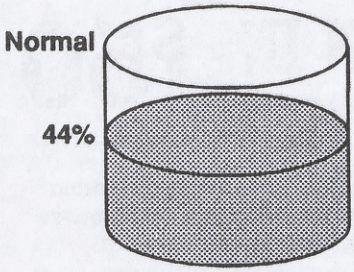
5-day photography workshop this month. Ride horseback into the eastern Sierra backcountry with David Stocklein, instructor. Call Quest For Light Photography, 935-4557

**5 GALEN ROWELL SLIDE PROGRAM**

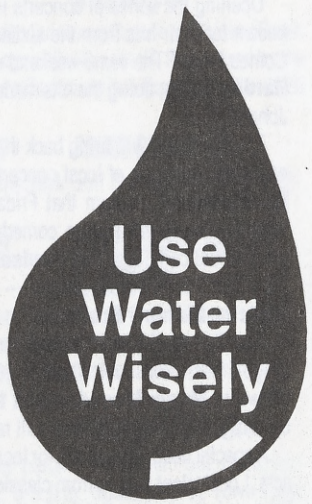
Quest For Light Photography will present world-renowned photographer Galen Rowell for a slide program and presentation. 935-4557


# We Need Your Help...

**1992 SNOWMELT RUNOFF**



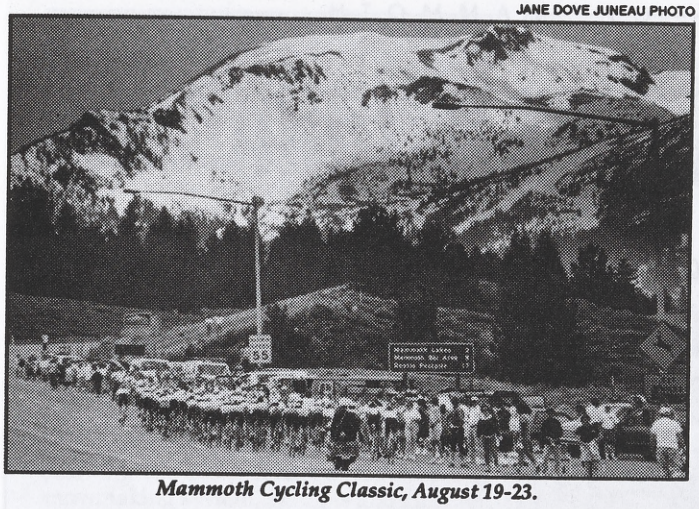

**Mammoth is experiencing its record 6th year of drought. Therefore, the District has instituted water use restrictions which will remain in effect for the entire summer. You can help us minimize the impact on the environment by saving water wherever possible. Please check the local newspapers or call the Water District for information on the current level of restrictions.**




## Mammoth County Water District

## 934-2596

JANE DOVE JUNEAU PHOTO



*Mammoth Cycling Classic, August 19-23.*

**5 CLEAN SWEEP SWAP MEET**

Minaret Village Shopping Center, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Contact the Town Parks & Recreation Department, 934-8983.

**5-6 LABOR DAY VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT**

Two person play at Grumpy Park. Call 934-8587

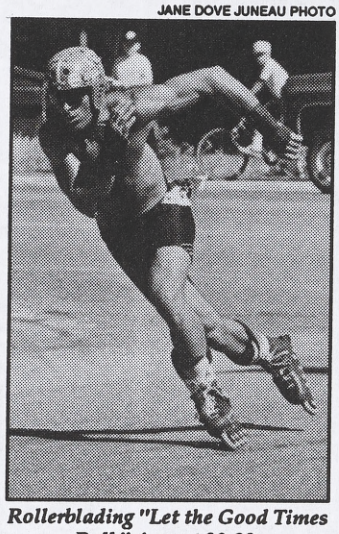
**5-7 USED BOOK SALE**

All for a worthy cause — the town's library. A word to the wise: The early bird gets the (book) worm. Gateway Center Parking Lot, on the corner of Old Mammoth Road and Main Street, Saturday, Sunday and Monday from 8 a.m. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library of Mammoth Lakes.

**5-7 LABOR DAY ARTS AND CRAFTS FESTIVAL**

9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Minaret Rd., across from Pioneer Market.
Call 934-2992

JANE DOVE JUNEAU PHOTO



*Rollerblading "Let the Good Times Roll," August 29-30.*

**6 GALEN ROWELL PHOTOGRAPHY SEMINAR**

One-day indoor seminar with Galen Rowell, instructor. Call 925-4557

**6 MAMMOTH FUN RUN 5K & 10K**

934-0633 *MS*

JANE DOVE JUNEAU PHOTO

*Mountain bike hillclimb competition, July 22-26.*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RESORT CONDOMINIUMS

Walk to Bike Races, Jazz Jubilee, and Arts & Crafts Festival

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- Swimming Pool
- Game Room

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2nd Level
SIERRA CENTER MALL

# Building A New Attitude

## *Developing An Attracting Appearance*

BY DAVE SWART

COURTESY NORTH VILLAGE ASSOCIATES

*North Village follows the European tradition of consolidating development into a small area which is accessible only to pedestrians.*

For the last twenty years, four of Mammoth's major developments have been on hold, going through various bureaucratic channels and several changes in local government, waiting for the right time to begin construction and finally break onto the scene.

In the last few years, however, each of those four projects — North Village, Lodestar, Snowcreek and Juniper Ridge — have had their Master Development Plans approved by the Town. Here's an update on these approved plans, their status and various timeframes.

## North Village

North Village follows the European tradition of consolidating development into a small area which is accessible only to pedestrians. Since the 1960s, an easement corridor from the intersection of Minaret Road and Canyon Blvd. (about where Footloose Sport Shop stands today) and across the Mammoth Slopes subdivision to Warming Hut II, has been preserved for an enclosed gondola-like aerial tramway. With massive underground parking on the site, North Village would ease the parking and transportation problems at the Hut.

Plans for this 56-acre, luxury plaza resort call for a 300-room full-service hotel, retail shops and restaurants within the plaza, possible convention facilities and an ice rink.

Buildout of the project is expected to actually take about 15 years, but initial construction could begin any time now. Grading, the realigning of Canyon Blvd., leveling off the "chute" leading from Lakeview to Lake Mary Road, and starting the underground parking structure should all happen during the first building season.

Assuming everything goes as planned and especially that water sources can be secured to supply the development, the first hotel (which is planned to be operated by Westin Hotels) and the gondola could open within two years. Subsequent phases of development would include more hotels and lodges, retail shops, and a pedestrian overpass on Minaret Road.

## Lodestar Resort

The 210-acre resort, located at the physical center of Mammoth Lakes, saw the clearing of fairways for a PGA-certified, 18-hole championship golf course last summer. A 500-room hotel, 80,000 square feet of retail and restaurant space and substantial residential development are also planned.

A 40-foot swath has been cleared along the centerlines of the 15 fairways located north of Meridian Blvd. Work on the remaining three fairways is "on hold" until developers complete negotiations to acquire an additional 12 acres on the south side of Meridian. That additional land, assuming the necessary Town approvals are also procured, would accommodate the remaining three holes and a single-family lot subdivision.

Grading around the water-storage lakes and greens north of Meridian is also being started, and planting is scheduled to begin this Mammoth Summer.

Work on the hotel — a large, $50 million luxury facility — may be started soon. The key prerequisites are selecting a developer to build it and securing the financing.

Since the construction schedule of several of the elements of Lodestar are still uncertain, and the project of course is also conditional upon a supply of water not yet available, it is difficult to predict when the resort may open its doors and when play on the golf course will start.

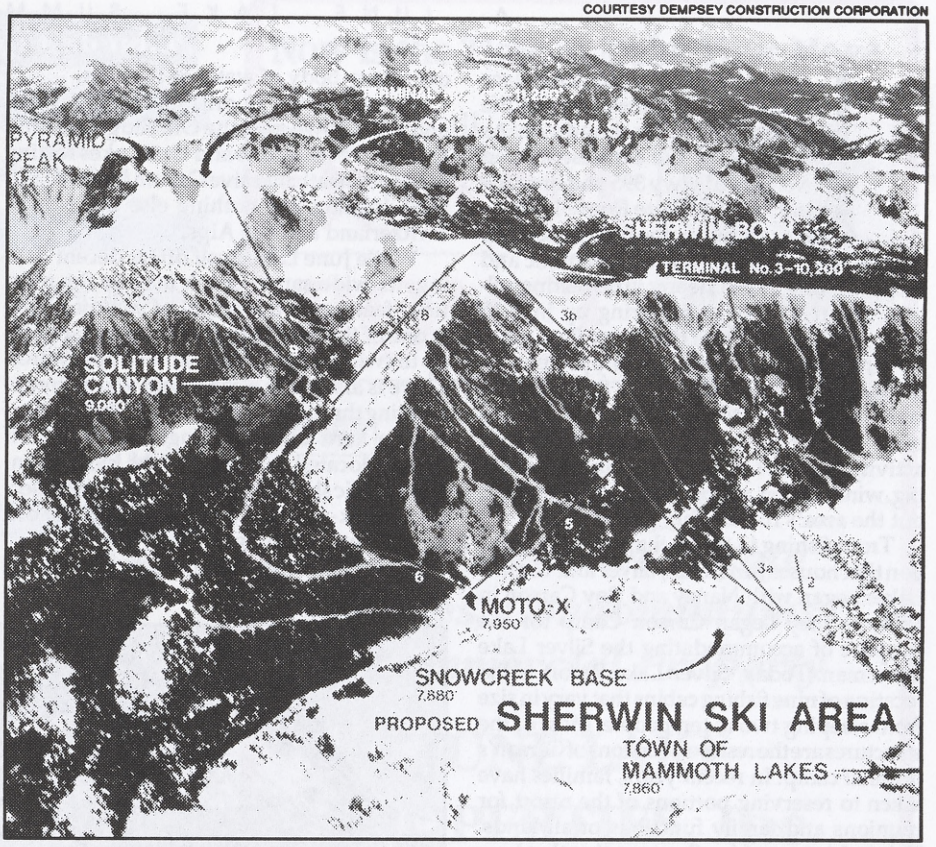
# Sherwin Ski Area

Integral to the Snowcreek Village and golf course, Sherwin Ski Area was given the go-ahead last winter for the developers to create a site-specific Master Development Plan. With all support facilities on private property, the Inyo National Forest reportedly sees Sherwin as an excellent proposal. If it is ever constructed, it will probably be the last new ski area in America, according to its proponent Tom Dempsey.

Preparation of a site-specific Master Plan detailing the exact locations of chairlifts, snowmaking system, ski runs and facilities is under way this Mammoth Summer. Dempsey Construction Corp. VP Jim Ognisty said that document will take about a year to prepare, and construction would start only after it was approved by the United States Forest Service. Skiing could be seen at Sherwin as soon as one year after approval of the site-specific plan, Ognisty said.

As now envisioned, Sherwin Ski Area would offer 1,800 skiable acres serviced by nine chairlifts. The $50 million-plus project could accommodate 8,000 skiers per day, and a snowmaking system would virtually guarantee early opening dates every season.

COURTESY DEMPSEY CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION




*Sherwin Ski Area would offer 1,800 skiable acres serviced by nine chairlifts, accommodate 8,000 skiers per day, and a snowmaking system would virtually guarantee opening dates every season*

# Snowcreek Golf Course

A grand opening celebration for the first nine holes of the Snowcreek Golf Course was held in July of 1991, and players enjoyed the short course all last summer and again this year.

The "back nine" have been approved by the local Forest Service office but were subsequently appealed when the Sherwin ski area met the same fate last year. A decision on that appeal is forthcoming from Washington, DC, as it is intricately intertwined with the proposed ski area. Following the receipt of Forest Service approvals, construction could begin. One full season would be needed to build the course and another to grow the turf, so play could not begin until the third season following approval.

In the meantime, 24 new homesites located on or adjacent to the first nine holes of the golf course are being marketed.

# Mammoth/June Lake Airport

The Town of Mammoth Lakes has finalized its airport purchase agreement with Mono County, and official transfer of the facility took place October 1, 1991.

The outcome of the December 3, 1991, local ballot initiative determined that the Town will be able to use existing revenue sources to purchase, maintain and improve the airport. Meanwhile, Town officials are proceeding with FAA grant applications for improvements at the airport. Among the anticipated projects are an expanded terminal building, lengthening of the main runway, an east-west (crosswind) emergency runway, and an Instrument Approach System.

It is hoped that improvements at the airport will make the facility safer for pilots and passengers, as well as boost the reputation of the Town of Mammoth Lakes and Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, both of which have received criticism within the tourism industry for their relative inaccessibility.

# Juniper Ridge

Most of the 40 single-family lots at Juniper Ridge (Mammoth's only ski-in home sites) have been sold and some building is now underway.

When completed — a project which will take several years — Juniper Ridge will boast its own 35,000-square-foot ski lodge, "Warming Hut III," at the base of Chair 15, and a luxury hotel with 120 to 130 rooms. Additionally, 120 slopeside condominiums are to be built near the homesites. Although they will be privately owned, the condos will be managed by the hotel operator.

***When completed Juniper Ridge will boast its own 35,000-square-foot ski lodge, "Warming Hut III," at the base of Chair 15, and a luxury hotel with 120 to 130 rooms.***

Negotiations with three potential developers (for everything but the home sites) are currently in progress, and the outcome of those talks will determine the timeframe for completion of each of the elements of the project. Again, the timeframe could be affected by the success or failure of efforts to secure new water sources, a situation affecting all proposed major developments in the Mammoth area.

Project spokesman Rusty Gregory expects that the negotiations will lead to the selection of a developer by this Mammoth Summer.

Mammoth Mountain's snowmaking system, the second phase of which is now being built, will eventually also provide consistent snow coverage to the Chair 15/Juniper Ridge area. *MS*

# PURE AIR... PURE RECREATION

By Ed Myers

June Lake has always been a place where the vacationers' pace of life has been allowed to slow down. As one veers off the exhaust-stained pavement of Hwy 395 and onto the windy flats of State Route 158N — better known as the June Lake Loop — they immediately view the dramatic and scenic quality of the sleepy little fishing village that really began to spring up in 1915 with the completion of the Tioga Pass road.

June Lake has never made any pretense to being other than a community that supplies pure recreation. While fishing has always been the cornerstone of summer outdoor activity in June Lake, hiking, mountain biking, windsurfing, swimming, camping round out the area's full activity guide.

Trout fishing in the U-shaped glacial canyon that houses June, Gull, Silver and Grant's Lakes began with Nancy and Roy Carson in 1916, as they began Carson Camp for the purpose of accommodating the Silver Lake fisherman. Today, Silver Lake Resort is the location of nine fishing cabins that vary in size from sleeping two to ten people. Most of the structures are the restored versions of Carson's original camp. In recent years, families have taken to reserving portions of the resort for reunions and family functions of all kinds. This is this type of family recreation that June Lakers have always had a taste for.

Silver Lake is definitely not the only place to fish in the Loop, however. It is just the hook on the line that lures sportsmen to other fabulous spots. Rainbows, goldens, brookies, and brown trout can be snapped out of any body of water in the area.

As one drives in on 158, heading west, and tools down past the Oh! Ridge lookout, the vista reveals June and Gull Lakes resting calmly beneath massive Carson Peak (10,909 feet), looking like nothing else this side of Switzerland and the Alps.

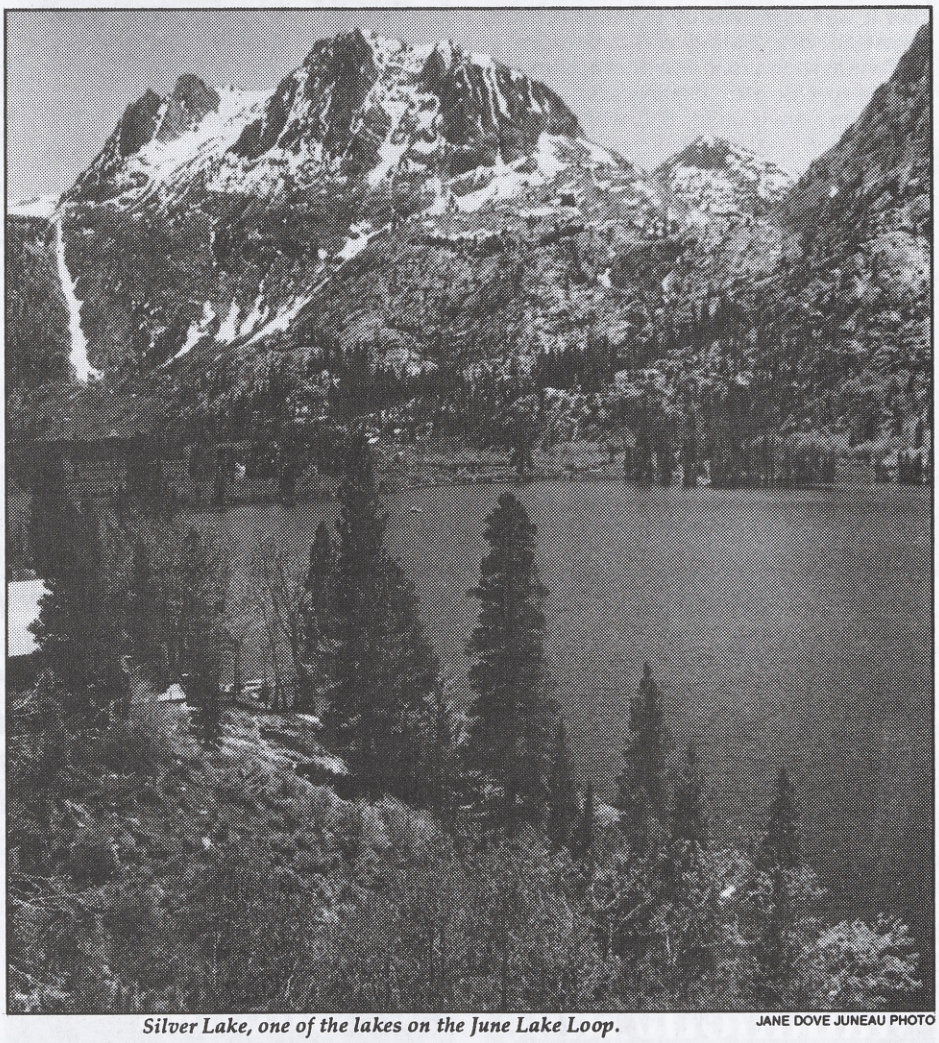
While June Lake itself offers decent fishing, its wide sandy beach may be the most used feature. In the height of summer, June is one of the only lakes in the area that heats up to swim-suitably swimable temperatures. There is also quite a consistent warm breeze blowing through the canyon that sailboarders have a hard time resisting. The Pine Cliff Resort, located just below Oh! Ridge, contains public showers, campgrounds with electrical hook-ups, and a general store that can satisfy outdoor hunger.

Gull Lake offers marina services for the fisherman, as well as a community park equipped with jungle gyms, swing sets, and picnic tables. The turn-off for the park is a sharp right just past the main village shop development.

Fly fishing is welcomed in all lakes but if creek and stream fishing is more your bag, you don't have to hike far. Aspen-lined Rush Creek — connecting Silver and Grant Lakes — is a serene setting for fast running creek fishing. Reverse Creek (so named because it flows toward the mountains) and Alger Creek also are great places to wave the rod.

The hiking out of the June Lake Loop is steep. Trailheads located at Silver Lake Resort and Fern Creek throw hikers quickly up into the mountains at a quite a pitch. Once you crest the canyon, though, the Inyo wilderness opens into some of the most spectacular landscape in the world.

Weber, Waugh, and Thousand Island Lakes (not much of an exaggeration) each



*Silver Lake, one of the lakes on the June Lake Loop.* JANE DOVE JUNEAU PHOTO

offer perspectives of spectacular Ritter and Banner Peaks that relatively few people ever see. Each of the trailheads eventually hooks into the John Muir and Pacific Coast Trails bringing the hiker into either the Devils Postpile area (and further south, if desired, all the way to the Mexican border) or into the wildernesses of Yosemite National Park (and, for that matter, on north to the Canadian border).

Hiking in this area, like all of the Eastern Sierra, can strenuous. The high altitude and consequently thin air may cause problems to those not fully acclimated to the rugged terrain. Forest Service permits must be obtained for those campers planning on spending the night in the backcountry. Day hikers should consult a guide book or topo map to find a walk suitable for their physical condition and time alotted. Remember, too, that these high mountains actually create their own weather systems and storms may occur unexpectedly and unannounced.

## June Lake Loop Calendar

*(provided by the June Lake Chamber of Commerce)*

| Date | Event | Place |
|---|---|---|
| **JUNE** | | |
| 20-27 | Friends-Neighbors Week | June Lake |
| 20 | Block Party & Dance | Gull Lake Park |
| **JULY** | | |
| 4 | Independence Day BBQ & Car Show | Silver Lake Resort |
| 11 | Day in the Park BBQ, children's games | Gull Lake Park |
| 17 | Gracie Lantz Day Children's art show | Gull Lake Park |
| 17-19 | Frontier Days | June Mtn. |
| 25 | 5K/10K Run | June Lake Beach |
| 30 | Silent Auction | Gull Lake Park |
| **AUGUST** | | |
| 8 | Fireman's BBQ | Gull Lake Park |
| 14-16 | 20th Annual Art Show | Gull Lake Park |
| 15 | High Sierra Chili Cook-off and Gun Fights | Silver Lake Resort |
| 28-30 | Craft Show | Gull Lake Park |
| **SEPTEMBER** | | |
| 5 | Chili Cook-off and Salsa Spectacular | Gull Lake Park |
| 6 | Carson Camp Day | Silver Lake Resort |

Mountain biking has become one of the most popular sports in the Eastern Sierra. With the opening of the famous Mammoth Mountain Bike Park to off-road biking activity as well as the well-marked Forest Service trails in the area, bikers can also been seen pedaling the length of the 14-mile June Lake Loop. Those wishing to both bike and hike can turn-off the loop at Silver Lake Resort, take a short walk, and pedal the rest of the loop.

This year marks a special change of events in June Lake. The Chamber of Commerce members are participants in the Main Street program offered through the United States Department of Labor. The effects of the State-funded program should be visibly widespread in the small shops and restaurants located in June Lake Village.

Phil Dore, the chairman of the June Lake Chamber, said that the Main Street program will help to reveal the historic side of June Lake. Each store will present pieces of personal and area history through pictures and knowledgeable store owners.

"The Main Street program is a way for the people of June Lake to interact with the visitors we have," Dore said. "After all, it is the people of June Lake that enhance the scenery and activities here. We want to bring that to the forefront."

A fun community-oriented activity to attend this summer is Frontier Days, on July 17-19. Included in the long weekend events are an exciting gunfight recreation by the Owens River Gang, dances, craft shows, a stew cook-off and a 5K/10K Fun Run.

Indeed, June Lake is a place for relaxation. There is nothing more the residents of June Lake would like to see than visitors napping on the sandy beach, or hauling a five-pound rainbow out of Reverse Creek, or going on an afternoon hike.

Whatever you call relaxation, and whatever your recreational tastes, the June Lake Loop gives you plenty of area to explore, history to absorb, and scenery that injects the dramatic thrill of the Sierra into your blood. *MS*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CATCH OF THE DAY

# HOOKED

## *Trout Recipes from 3 of Mammoth's Finest Restaurants*

BY LYNNE T. PEABODY

There are few big fish more beautiful than a trout.

Take rainbows — flashing be tween mossy green to a light amber, they are covered with a generous speckling of dark spots each circled by a lighter, bluer shade of their skin. Some trout have pinkish areas on their bellies, throats and tails, seeming to blush as if aware of their natural beauty.

I have seen trout in high mountain brooks, holding their position, unmoving against the current, patiently waiting, and then in a flash of glinting gold they dart away. Swimming away in the icy, clean water, always watching, hunting and being hunted.

Something of that wildness stays with you even when the trout comes wrapped in cellophane out of the meat department of the grocery store.

Their flesh is often coral pink and flaky. Very delicate in flavor, more so than their relative the Coho salmon, trout can be fried, baked, grilled, poached or smoked.

Undeniably, the best way to prepare trout in a Mammoth Summer is fried simply in a cast iron pan over a campfire. However, it is imperative that it be freshly caught and you've eaten only trail mix all day.

Trout is so delicious, versatile and plentiful in the Sierra that it can and should be enjoyed more often than the occasional camp-out.

Chefs from three of Mammoth's finest restaurants have submitted for your enjoyment recipes for trout, whether they're caught out of Lake Mary or the fresh fish section of Vons.

### Terry Whitman of Nevados

One of the big stories in Mammoth Lakes during 1991 was when Roget's, considered by many people the best restaurant in Mammoth, closed its doors to remodel. They not only overhauled the decor, but they changed the menu and the name to "Nevados."

The menu mixes different styles and flavors with daring imagination. You'll find China's spices in the All-American barbecued ribs, pasta mixed with southwestern sausage, and Cajun-spiced Ahi served with a wasabi compound butter.

"It's an interesting menu," explained head chef Terry Whitman, who was instrumental in the changes, "because we're not tied down to one style. It's *almost* irreverent cooking."

Whitman, who trained with Chip White (a legendary Mammoth Lakes chef), brings years of experience from various local restaurants to Nevados.

"I've learned a lot in every restaurant I've worked in. From working with Sam Walker [of Whiskey Creek], I learned about food and the business of food. From Sally and Gary Berger [of Berger's], I learned the importance of simplicity," said Whitman.

The *Mango and Kiwi-fruit Salsa* that Whitman serves on grilled trout is often served on swordfish at Nevados. Whitman says its slightly acidic and spicy flavor yet a little sweetness complements fish well.

#### Terry Whitman's Grilled Trout with Mango and Kiwi-fruit Salsa

*serves 4*

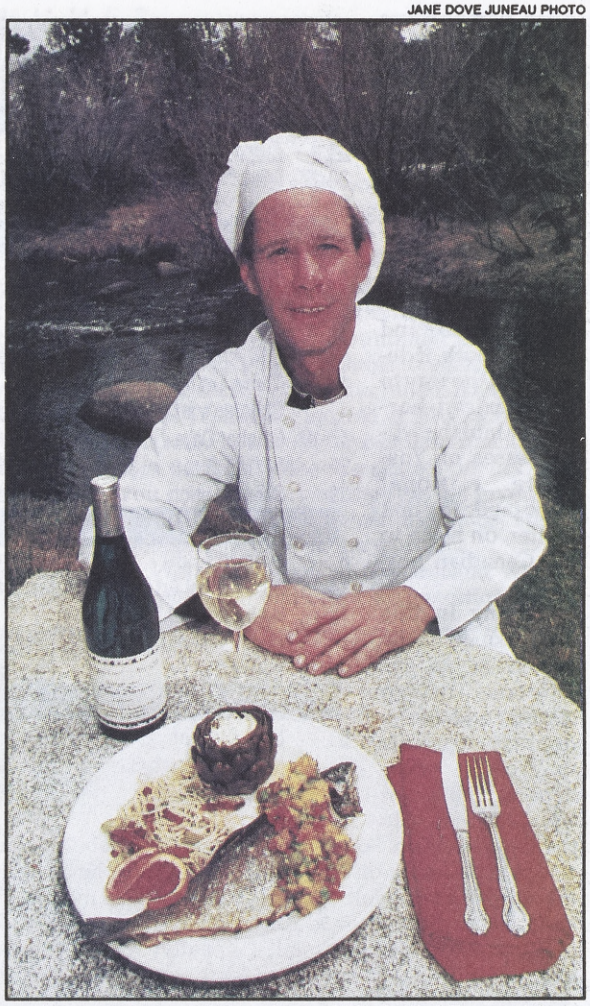
1 kiwi-fruit, *peeled and chopped*
1 medium mango, *peeled and chopped*
1/2 roasted red bell pepper, *peeled and diced*
2 green onions, *chopped*
1 tablespoon fresh cilantro, *chopped*
1/2 teaspoon hot chili garlic sauce *
4 cleaned fresh trout

Combine first six ingredients in a medium bowl and mix thoroughly. Refrigerate until ready to serve (at least 15 minutes).

Rub vegetable oil on trout. Cook on hot grill until done. Place on warm serving plates. Divide chilled sauce into four equal servings and serve over grilled trout.

** found in the Oriental food section of your grocery store*

JANE DOVE JUNEAU PHOTO



*Terry Whitman of Nevados and his Grilled Trout with Mango and Kiwi-fruit Salsa.*

### Steve Mejia of The Restaurant at Convict Lake

Just a stretch off Hwy 395 lies the Convict Lake Resort. A haven for fisherman who crowd this tiny resort and campground to fish in the bountiful and deep Convict Lake, hanging onto the side of ruthlessly looming Mt. Morrison.

For the outdoorsman who yearns for a little warmth and luxury, the Restaurant at Convict Lake is like a miraculous oasis. Known far and wide for its gourmet food, elite wine list and their deep, red leather booths placed next to a roaring open fireplace, the Restaurant packs in fisherfolk and their guests throughout the Mammoth Summer.

Perhaps to satisfy the rare skunked fisherman, head chef Steve Mejia is considering adding his *Fresh Trout Sauté with Saffron, Fresh Basil and Italian Plum Vinaigrette* to their elegant menu.

"Everyone seems to be watching their weight now," said Mejia. "Vinaigrettes on fish have become very popular."

Mejia, who trained at the Bel Air Hotel, moved to Mammoth Lakes twelve years ago. Before making his way to the Restaurant at Convict Lake, he worked at the Tamarack's Lakefront, O'Kelly & Dunn, and Fat Albert's.

"It's really good for me working here," explained Mejia, who had previously cooked for a gourmet restaurant that seated only around 30 people. "It's very challenging sometimes, trying to pump out three times the food for three times the people, and still keeping up the same quality." By all accounts, he's successful.

This recipe is wonderful served with risotto and fresh asparagus. Serve it with a Sauvignon Blanc.

### Steve Mejia's Fresh Trout Sauté with Saffron, Fresh Basil and Italian Plum Tomato Vinaigrette

*serves 2*

1 shallot, *minced*
20 threads saffron
1/2 cup Chardonnay
1 teaspoon balsamic vinegar
1 tablespoon white wine vinegar
1/2 teaspoon dijon mustard
2 tablespoon chopped fresh basil
2 tablespoon *chopped* fresh Italian plum tomato
4 tablespoon olive oil
salt
white pepper
2 boneless pan-sized trout (approximately 10 oz. each.)

In a small saucepan, mix shallot, saffron threads and Chardonnay. Place over low heat and reduce by half.

Pour reduced mixture into a medium bowl. Stir in vinegars, mustard, basil and tomato. Slowly whisk in the olive oil, pouring it in a thin, steady stream as you whisk to mix evenly.

Flavor with salt and pepper to taste and set aside.

In a frying pan, sauté the trout filets in a small amount of oil until golden brown. Place on a warm serving platter. Top with the room temperature vinaigrette and serve.

## Perish Capen of The Lakefront Restaurant

In the winter, the terrain around Tamarack Resort on Twin Lakes is covered with cross-country skiers skiing around and across the Lakes Basin. Come Mammoth Summer, those ski trails become paths and roads leading fisherman up to Lake Mary, Lake George, Lake Mamie, TJ's and Barrett Lake, as well as beyond to the interior of the Sierra.

Tamarack Resort is everything one would imagine a mountain resort would be... log-walled, quaint and rustic, the hotel's lobby invites you with deep couches, their huge open fireplace, book shelves and cozy lamped game tables.

But tucked around behind the front desk and down the hall is Lakefront Restaurant, an intimate restaurant which serves some of the finest food in the Eastern Sierra. With only ten tables, many of the diners are guests of the resort. However, for years, townspeople and visitors to Mammoth have made the short drive up Lake Mary Road to enjoy the exceptional food.

"Lakefront is a cook's dream come true," said Perish Capen, one of the chefs at Lakefront. "It's a small restaurant, so you're not trying to mass-produce food. It allows you to take your time and concentrate on quality and presentation."

Both he and his colleague Scott McIntosh realize they have the best of both worlds at this resort restaurant, because they cook for a sophisticated, city clientele but get to live and work in a natural, beautiful small community.

"This is a warm restaurant," said McIntosh. "The Watsons [who own and operate the resort and restaurant] really care about serving gourmet food. They want to give their guests the best."

Part of "the best" includes serving dishes which are not only of the highest quality, but are exceptional in their presentation. Following this philosophy, the *Trout Broiled in Chardonnay Butter* is not only delicate in flavor but, served on a bed of sliced cucumbers and contrasting red bell pepper, is artfully presented.

### Perish Capen's Trout Broiled in Chardonnay Butter

*serves 2*

1 stick unsalted butter
2 large cloves garlic, *peeled and minced*
1 medium shallot, *minced*
2 large pinches of salt and pepper
1 teaspoon *chopped* fresh parsley
1/4 cup Chardonnay (or good quality white wine)
2 medium-sized trout, boned
1 cucumber, *sliced paper-thin*
1 red bell pepper, *diced*

Preheat oven to 500°.

Heat butter in a saucepan over low heat. Add garlic, shallots, salt and pepper. Sauté for 2 to 3 minutes, stirring often (be careful not to burn mixture). Add parsley and sauté 1 minute. Add wine and bring to a very low boil. Remove from heat.

Pour into a heavy baking dish, preferably glass or ceramic, large enough to hold two open trout (or use two baking dishes, large enough for one trout each).

Place trout open, flesh down, skin up in the pan and bake 10-15 minutes until the skin is easily removed.

Serve each on a bed of cucumber slices and top with red bell peppers. ***MS***

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# Culinary Capital of Eastern CA

## *Choice, Choices, Choices*

BY DAVE SWART

With so much to do in Mammoth every Mammoth Summer — like hiking, biking, fishing, golf, sunbathing, hot tubbing, bike riding, bird watching, horse back riding, rock climbing, swimming, flower picking and star gazing — it's a wonder there is any time left to eat.

Ahh, but not to worry — Mammoth Lakes is the culinary capital of eastern California, with numerous restaurants and cafes to choose from. Whether it's a simple deli sandwich or a white tablecloth dinner in a fine restaurant, Mammoth has it all.

The only problem arises when it's time to choose just where to go out to eat.

That's right. Mammoth is very proud of its more than 50 eating establishments. Whatever price range or type of food you may be interested in, Mammoth has it: Italian, French, German, Oriental, Mexican, pizza, burgers, steak house, seafood, cafeteria, fast food, barbecue, deli, take-out, formal, family or funky. Each one gives good ol' American value, providing delicious food at reasonable prices. There is however that one dilemma remaining — deciding where to dine. The choices are seemingly endless.

JANE DOVE JUNEAU PHOTO

*Matsu offers such "eclectic Asian" selections as you might find in Hawaii or the Phillipines and the rest of the Orient.*

**Whiskey Creek** has long been considered the grandaddy of dinner houses here in Mammoth, but there are several others that are great in their own right. The **Mogul**, for example, can pride itself as one of the most popular establishments in town. The **Rafters** has been here for years and still serves their fabulous Roasted Honey Duck. Right next door is **Ocean Harvest**, Mammoth's only seafood specialty dinner house.

**Finicky's** can be proud of its fabulous view dining room as well as their excellent prime rib. The old favorite **Matterhorn** serves classic entrees for breakfast and dinner in an "old world" atmosphere. **Nevados** offers contemporary and affordable *nouveau* cuisine, and the intimate **Natalie's** is a great choice for a fine dining experience.

The chain dinner houses are here too. If you're looking for consistency in steaks and salad bars, it's hard to beat **Cask-N-Cleaver** or the **Chart House**.

Mammoth Mountain Ski Area will keep their **cafeteria** open this Mammoth Summer at the Main Lodge for hungry mountain bikers. They also have two restaurants across the street, the **Mountainside Grill** in the Mammoth Mountain Inn and the **Yodler**, an authentic Swiss chalet.

Tamarack Lodge, at the entrance to the Mammoth Lakes basin at Twin Lakes, offers fine dining in their quaint **Lakefront** dining room, as well as snacks and munchies all day long in their rustic lobby.

Another establishment that is not found on a main street in the village is the **Austria Hof**. They have been serving authentic German, Swiss and Austrian favorites in a real old-world environment since 1972. They're located at the top of Canyon Blvd., near Warming Hut II.

A little further out of town, but well worth the drive, is the **Restaurant at Convict Lake**. They're located up the hill towards the Sierra, across the highway from the airport, where Chef Steve Mejia serves up some of the finest gourmet cuisine to be found anywhere.

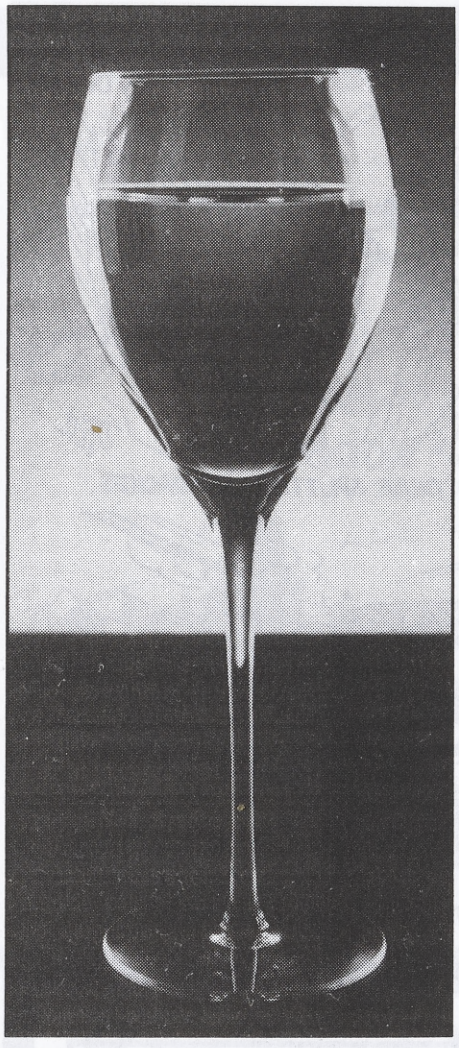
If you've been coming to Mammoth for a long time, you may remember when there were only one or two restaurants that served breakfast, with long lines out the door and into the parking lot. Well, all that has changed. According to the latest *Dining Guide*, there are about 20 places in town to have breakfast, and most of these serve other meals, too.

The **Breakfast Club** is one of Mammoth's most popular breakfast spots — no dues or meetings at this club, just good food. **Annie Rose's Kitchen** on Main Street is famous for their great breakfasts as well. **O'Kelly and Dunn**, in the Minaret Village Mall, is well known for their gourmet breakfasts, and serves lunch and dinner too. If you're looking for continental bakery treats, look no further than **Schat's Bakery & Cafe** on Main St. **Blondie's Kitchen** is now serving awesome waffles in addition to their great breakfasts and huge Dagwood sandwiches for lunch. Looking for a health conscious approach to breakfast or lunch? You'll find an excellent menu at **Good Stuff** in the Mammoth Mall. They also make lunches for golfers out at the Snowcreek Golf Course.

The **Stove** and the **Swiss Cafe** are both long time favorite breakfast spots here in Mammoth, and both serve lunch and dinner as well. Their great food and service hasn't changed in years.

The fast food chains are here, too. **Kentucky Fried Chicken** is always ready to fill any picnic basket, **McDonald's** and **Carl's Jr.** both serve breakfast, lunch and dinner, and **Domino's Pizza** will deliver anywhere in town. **Nicolosi's**, in addition to their breads, offers some of the tastiest ribs or pizzas to-go around.

Speaking of pizza, **Nik-N-Willie's** was voted Mammoth's favorite. Call 'em up and take it home to cook it yourself. **Giovanni's** and **Perry's** both serve very excellent pizzas in addition to their other great Italian dishes. **Shakey's** has a long-standing reputation for consistency, and **Chick-N-Pizza** is open late should you get that



midnight urge for food.

Need a burger fix? **Berger's** was voted Mammoth's best hamburger in a recent poll, but the rest of their menu is equally outstanding. **Angel's** is another popular family spot and features a very well rounded menu and the biggest selection of beer in town.

Mammoth also has two nicely appointed Italian dinner houses in **Slocum's**, a top-notch operation with very reasonable prices, and **Petrello's** — a little hard to find, but it offers an exceptional view from the dining room. This Mammoth Summer they'll have a new menu to check out.

For Mexican food, **Roberto's** offers great food at very affordable prices. **Gringo's** is a little more upscale and is packed with atmosphere. For a more relaxed Mexican dining experience, try **La Sierra's** on Main Street and choose from Mexican or Italian cuisine, then dance the night away downstairs in the *cantina*.

Or is it oriental cuisine you're looking for? **Shogun** features Mammoth's only sushi bar and Japanese fare. The **Golden Dragon** offers traditional Cantonese and Szechwan dishes. And **Matsu** offers such "eclectic Asian" selections as you might find in Hawaii or the Phillipines and the rest of the Orient.

**Grumpy's** is famous for their big screen TVs and fun atmosphere. They serve breakfast lunch and dinner. **Goats Bar**, on Main Street, is a true Mammoth "neighborhood bar." **Stogie's** has some real local color, and can be found on Chateau Rd. The **Eatery** is on Mountain Blvd. near the Texaco. They have a nice selections of sandwiches to go, or eat-in. You can't miss their A-frame exterior.

Another option is the deli-cafe, and we have some good ones. On the more elegant side, **Anything Goes** (whose name signifies their free spirit) offers great breakfasts, lunches and dinner, as does the **Gourmet Grocer** through their carefully prepared to-go, picnic fare. Both also specialize in catering. The **Winery** also carries some great pastries and coffee. **Susie's Subs, Vons** and **Pioneer Market** offer more traditional delis, and have great sandwiches for people on-the-go.

If it's your sweet tooth that's acting up, the **Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory** should solve the problem. And, somehow, ice cream in the high Sierra really hits the spot. How does a hot fudge sundae at **Baskin-Robbins** or **Mountain Delights** sound? And don't forget **Joey's** frozen yogurt in the Sierra Center Mall, next to the Video Station.

Some may even complain that Mammoth has *too* many places to eat. Well, it does get a little confusing, but such a great selection should enhance anyone's visit to the area. You'll won't run out of new restaurants to try. If you have any questions, just pick up the phone and call any one of these great establishments. (Note that if it's a weekend or holiday, you'll be wanting to call ahead for reservations.)

***MS***

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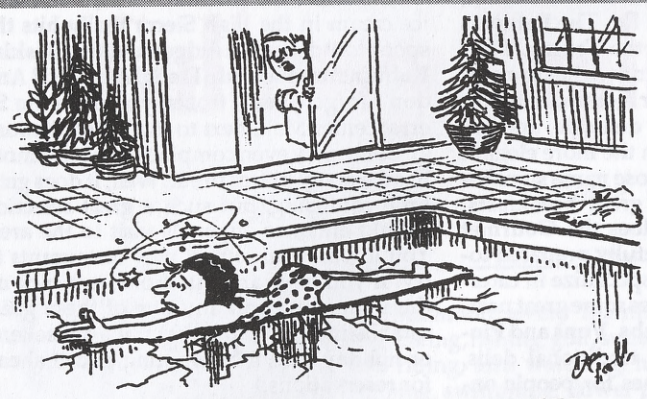
## HIGH SIERRA HAPPENINGS

By Don Robb



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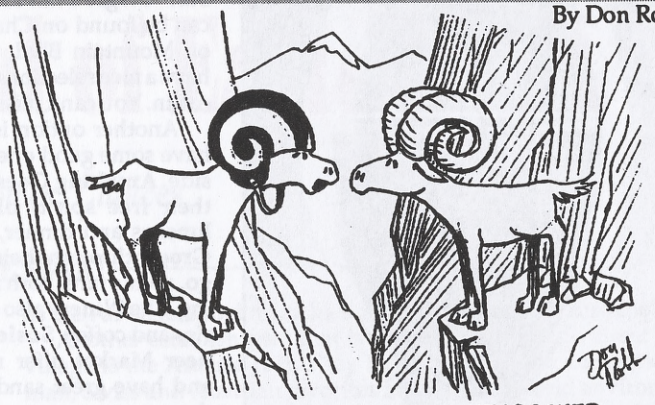

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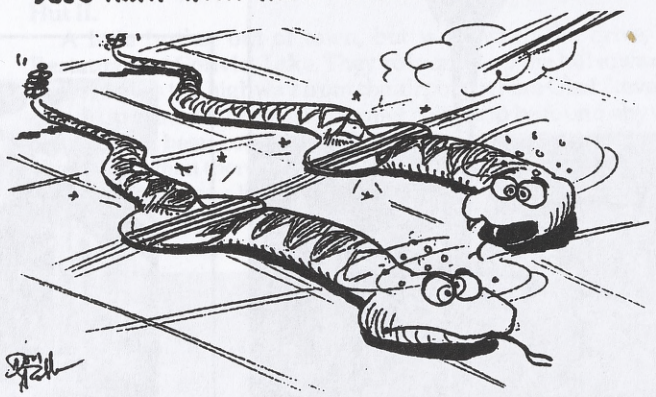

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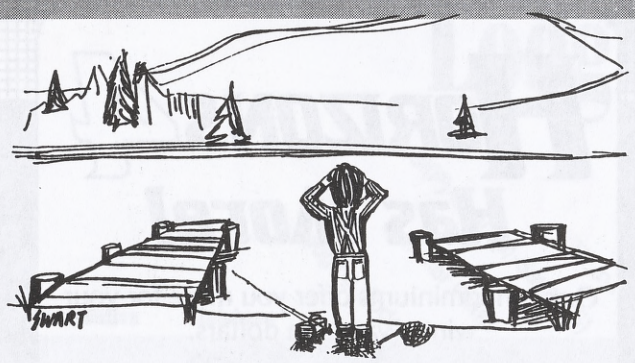
## HIGH SIERRA HAPPENINGS

By Dave Swart

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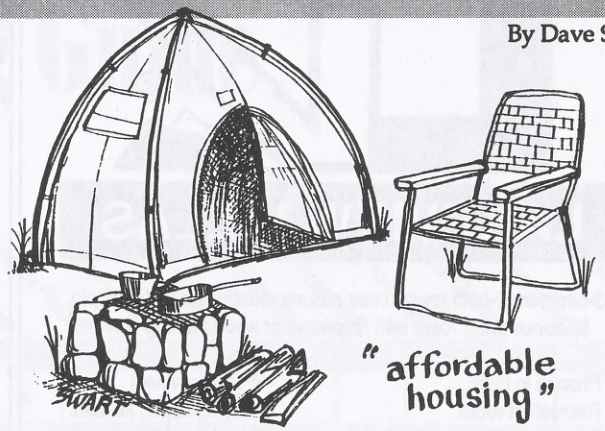


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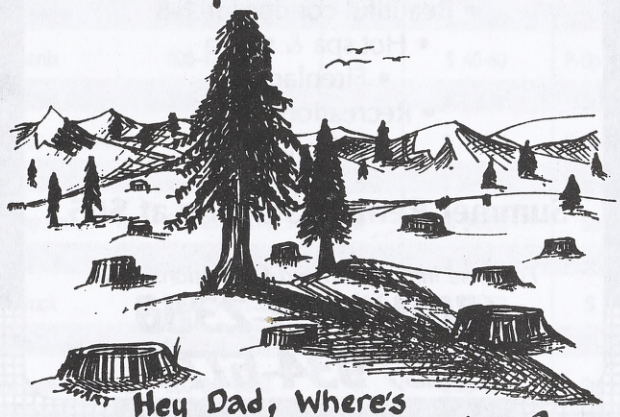


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# Lodging Guide

| Accommodation | Telephone | Lodging Code | Summer Rates | Pool(P)-Spa(Sp)-Sauna(S) | TV in Room | Phone in Room | HBO/VCR/Movie in Room | Tennis Courts | Kitchen | Fireplace | Restaurant on Premises | Continental Breakfasts | Accepts Groups | Rec Room | Laundry Available |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1849 | 800-421-1849 | C | $ 70-125 | P-Sp-S | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | | | | ● | ● | ● |
| All Seasons | 800-634-2838 | R/C | $ 75-120 | P-Sp-S | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | | | | ● | | ● |
| Austria Hof | 800-922-2966 | L | $ 34-55 | Sp-S | ● | ● | | | ○ | | | | ● | ● | |
| Chamonix | 800-421-9799 | C | $ 40-80 | P-Sp-S | ● | ○ | ○ | | ● | | | | ● | ● | ● |
| Chateau d' Oex | 800-932-0017 | C | $50 & up | Sp-S | ● | ○ | ● | | ● | | | | ● | | ● |
| Chateau de Montagne | 800-242-8330 | C | $ 75-125 | P-Sp-S | ● | ● | ● | | ● | | | | ● | | ● |
| High Country Reserv. | 800-321-3261 | R | $ 50-110 | P-Sp-S | ● | ○ | ○ | | ● | | | | ● | | ● |
| Holiday Haus | 619-934-2414 | M | $ 34-58 | Sp | ● | | | | ○ | | | | | | |
| Horizons 4 | 800-423-2388 | C | $ 50-95 | P-Sp-S | ● | ○ | ○ | ● | ● | ○ | | | | ● | ● |
| Innsbruck | 619-934-3035 | M | $ 12-50 | S | ○ | | | ● | ○ | | | | ● | | |
| International Inn | 619-934-6210 | M | $ 45-65 | P-Sp-S | ● | ● | ● | | ○ | ○ | | | | | ● |
| June Lake Prop. Res. | 800-648-5863 | R | $ 60-190 | Sp | ● | ○ | ○ | ○ | ● | | | | ● | | ○ |
| Krystal Villa East | 800-237-6181 | C | $ 45-70 | P-Sp-S | ● | | ○ | | ● | | | | | | ● |
| Lakeview Villas | 800-524-8663 | C | $85 | Sp | ● | ○ | ○ | | ● | | | | ● | ● | ● |
| Mam. Properties Res | 800-227-7669 | R | $ 60-130 | P-Sp-S | ● | ○ | ○ | ○ | ● | ○ | | | ● | ○ | ● |
| Mam. Res. Bureau | 800-462-5571CA | R | $ 50-130 | P-Sp-S | ● | ● | ○ | ○ | ● | | | | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Mam. Ski & Racquet | 800-367-6684 | C | $ 65-95 | P-Sp-S | ● | ● | ○ | ● | ● | | | | ○ | | ● |
| Mam. Vac.Getaways | 800-634-3733 | C | $ 45-95 | P-Sp-S | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | | | | ● | ○ | ● |
| Mammoth Estates | 800-228-2884 | C | $ 60-110 | P-Sp-S | ● | ● | ○ | | ● | | | | ● | ● | ● |
| Mammoth Mtn. Inn | 800-228-4947 | H/C | $ 69-145 | Sp | ● | ● | ● | | ○ | | ● | | ● | ● | ● |
| Mammoth Sierra Res. | 800-325-8415 | R | $ 40-200 | P-Sp-S | ● | ● | ○ | ○ | ● | | | | ● | | ● |
| Meadow Ridge | 800-468-5364 | C | $64 & up | P-Sp-S | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | | | | ● | | ● |
| Minaret Lodge | 619-934-2416 | M/L | $ 40-90 | | ● | ○ | | | ○ | | | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Nugget | 800-358-2710 | B | $ 45-65 | | ● | | | | ● | | | ● | ● | ● | |
| Seasons IV | 800-732-7664 | C | $ 60-94 | P-Sp-S | ● | ● | ● | | ● | | | | | ● | ● |
| Sherwin Villas | 800-228-5291 | C | $ 45-106 | P-Sp-S | ● | ○ | ○ | ● | ● | | | | ● | | ● |
| Sierra Lodge | 800-356-5711 | L | $ 50-85 | Sp | ● | ● | ● | | ● | ○ | | ● | ● | | |
| Sierra Nevada Inn | 800-824-5132 | H | $ 56-200 | P-Sp-S | ● | ● | | ● | ○ | ○ | ● | | ● | | ● |
| Sierra Park Villas | 800-422-6244 | C | $ 50-80 | P-Sp-S | ● | ○ | ○ | | ● | | | | ● | | ● |
| Snowbird | 800-421-1849 | C | $ 70-120 | Sp-S | ● | ● | ● | | ● | | | | ● | ● | ● |
| Sunshine Village | 800-233-6004 | C | $ 37-100 | P-Sp-S | ● | ○ | ○ | ● | ● | | | | ● | ● | ● |
| Swiss Chalet | 619-934-2403 | M | $ 42-58 | Sp-S | ● | ● | ● | | ○ | | | | ● | | |
| Tennis Village | 800-468-5364 | C | $121-175 | Sp | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | | | | ● | | ● |
| White Horse Inn | 619-924-3656 | B | $125-200 | Sp | | | | | ● | | | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| Wildflower | 800-521-1392 | C | $ 75-110 | P-Sp-S | ● | ○ | ● | ● | ● | | | | ● | | ● |

●=All Units ○=Some Units B=Bed & Breakfast C=Condominium H=Hotel L=Lodge M=Motel R=Reservation Company

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# Mammoth Vacation Homes

## *Compared to Most Mountain Resorts, Mammoth is a Much Better Buy for Your Money*

BY DAVE SWART

If you've ever thought about buying a vacation home in Mammoth, now is the time to start thinking about it again. And, if you've ever taken time to compare the Mammoth real estate market to other major ski areas or summer sports resorts in the west, you're probably already half-way sold.

Mammoth is a much better buy for your money, or value, compared to places like Tahoe or Park City, and it's downright cheap compared to Aspen or Vail. In these days of economic caution, buying a vacation home here in Mammoth could actually make sense for some people. Interest rates are reasonable, the selection is good, and Congress is actually considering some real estate tax breaks again.

Once you've decided on Mammoth, your next decision should involve what kind of property best fits your needs — condo or house. Because of certain zoning regulations, a single family home, or cabin cannot be rented out to vacationers for the weekend. The shortest rental period allowed in R-1 zoning is 30 days.

So, if you're interested in creating a little cash flow with your mountain home by renting it out, you might consider a six month lease in the half of the year you wouldn't be using it yourself. If you're a skier, rent it out over the Mammoth Summer, or vice versa. The up-side of owning a single family residence includes more privacy and more potential room, as well as more individuality. Condominiums, on the other hand, offer more flexible rental possibilities and on-site management. For many, it's nice to arrive at midnight on a snowy night and find your parking space has been plowed and your heater has been turned on by the condo manager.

If you own a condo and choose to place it on the rental program on weekends and holidays when you and your family aren't going to use it, you are suddenly in the landlord business, which could help offset other income for tax purposes. Everybody's tax picture is a little different, so talk to your tax advisor.

Your condo rental management company will book the public around your planned "owner use" or "owner guest." If, at the last minute, you or your owner guest want to use the condo, and it hasn't been rented-out by your management company, it's all yours. If a renter does any damage to your unit, it is usually detected by the maid service or the manager. The renter is fully responsible for any repairs. This is usually accomplished by an open credit card security deposit. Of course, as the owner of the property, you don't have to rent it out if you don't want to.

The definition of a condominium actually relates to the air space within your unit, and the form of ownership. The walls, roof and grounds are all known as the "common area." If there are 100 units in your condominium ▶

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Cindy Povlsen

## Time is Precious!

When seeking the right property to fulfill your Mammoth dream, you can rest assured I won't waste your time!

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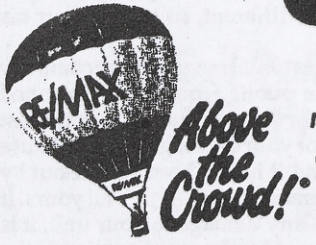


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project, you own 1/100th of the exterior of the building, 1/100th of the jacuzzi and swimming pools, 1/100th of the parking lot, and so on.

What that actually means is that you are responsible for 1/100th of the expenses to maintain the common area. This is generally called the common area fee, or CAF. Most condo projects have several different size units. Smaller units usually pay a smaller CAF, based on square footage of the unit — usually, but not always.

When you own a condominium, you become a voting member of the homeowner's association. The homeowner's association, in turn, elects a board of directors. As a voting member of the association, you participate in the budgetary and decision making process of operating the common area. Do we re-pave the parking lot this summer? Should we give the managers a raise? Is there enough money in reserves that we can lower the monthly CAF? Or, do we have a big expense coming up that calls for temporary raising of the CAF? Or, is it so big that we incur a special assessment?

Newcomers to the area are usually shocked to see a $200 per month CAF — that is, until they understand all the things that it pays for that would normally be associated with owning a house. Fire and liability insurance are included here, so the individual owner doesn't have to go out and get coverage on his own. The monthly fee also includes water, sewer and trash services, as well as the electricity used on the common area, and jacuzzi and pool maintenance. Also included are maintenance expenses for the upkeep of the buildings and landscaping.

And guess what happens every time it snows? That's right, the snowplows show up charging an arm and a leg to keep the parking lots cleared. If you own a cabin, you would have to contract your own snow removal, or dig it out yourself with a shovel. Snow removal at a condominium project can be one of the biggest expenses of the year.

The association not only has to pay the on-site manager's salary, but you have to provide them with a place to live on the project. Not cheap, but it's nice to know that someone is watching over your investment when you're 350 miles away.

Each condo project is a little different here in Mammoth. Some provide firewood through the common area expenses, others include telephone switchboard services, hot water in your unit, cable TV and even earthquake insurance. The one expense that is never included in the CAF is your own electric bill. When shopping for a condo, your Realtor can tell you exactly what is included at each project, and what the current CAF is.

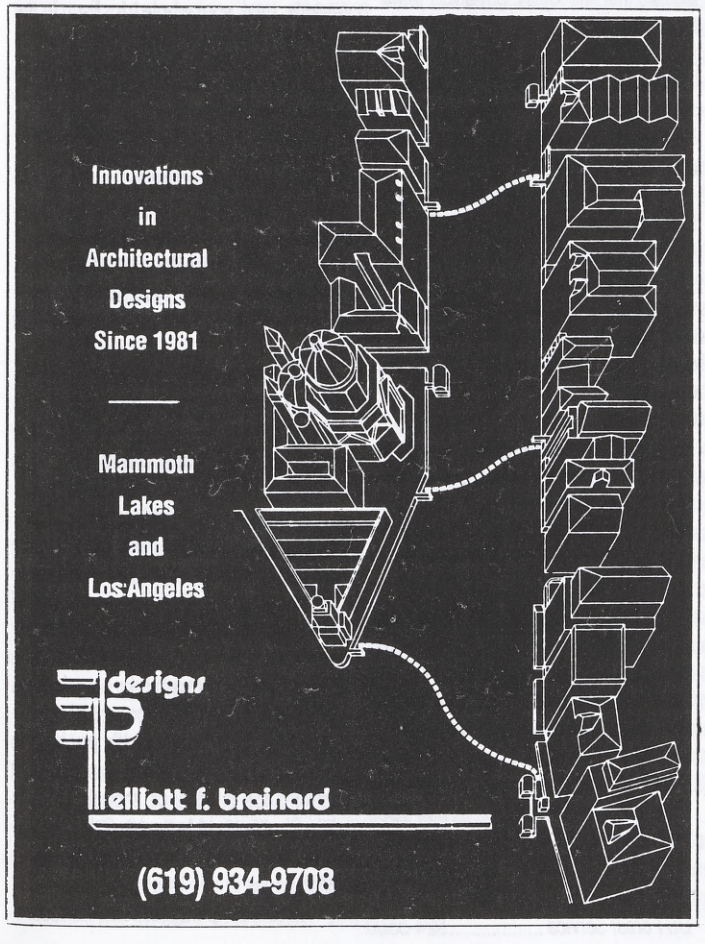
Some complexes have their own rental services; some of these in-house programs are very good and some aren't. As the owner of a unit, you may choose whether to go with an in-house rental program, or a central reservation company — of which there are plenty in Mammoth.

Before each ski season, your reservation (rental management) company will ask you to fill out an owner use calendar for when you or your guests plan to use the condo. They will then begin to book paying renters around your schedule.

An average unit, in an average location, during an average year could possibly be rented 100 nights a year — mostly during the ski season. This is assuming, of course, that the owner does not use it during peak rental periods, like holidays and weekends. A two bedroom plus loft unit can rent for as much as $175 per night. Multiply that times the 100 nights, and you could gross $17,500 per year. Of that, about 37 percent is rental expenses, so you would net about 63 percent, or $11,000. Some will do better, and some won't do as well. The critical factor here is the occurrence of rentals.

With a cabin, or single family home, your options for using it yourself and renting it out are much more limited. As mentioned earlier, the minimum length of rental is 30 days in an R-1 zoned neighborhood. But you may want to rent it out full time, with a yearly lease until you move into it yourself. Right now, a clean, average three bedroom house in Mammoth rents for about $1,000 a month, of course some are much more, and some are much less. Location, storage and energy efficiency are critical factors.

Whether you're looking for a condo, or a cabin in Mammoth, make sure to work with a Realtor who is a member of the local board of Realtors. They have access to all listings, and all comparable sales information. ***MS***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Main Street next to Sandy's Ski & Sports

# Mammoth Summer Adventures

## *Let the Eastern Sierra Give Your Life A Lift*

BY DAVID STRUMSKY

**There's nothing like** a vacation in the mountains to bring up the anticipation of adventure, like an aroma of fond associations.

Something about just the thought of a mountain vacation starts the mental wheels rolling. Like when you think of Grandma's kitchen and you almost smell bread and cookies baking. Call it due to the strong, fresh air, searingly blue skies, the peace of longstanding trees, or the dramatic ability of mountain horizons to give way to new ones as you travel further.

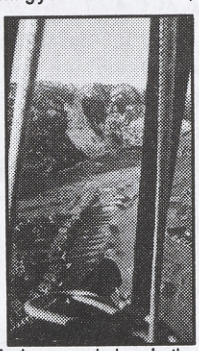
Although just getting out of bed may be enough adventure for some, for the more intrepid of you here are a few of the ways a visit to Mammoth can become an adventure to remember.

An adventurous spirit means new horizons, rediscovering enthusiasm, stretching your life out a little.

Leave the everyday world behind, let your imagination carry you for a moment to the Eastern Sierra where there's an adventure in fun awaiting you — in a Mammoth Summer.

### Ballooning

**Ballooning is a slow thrill.** Unlike anything you have ever done, except maybe in your dreams of flying. It's like being weightless.



Everything inside you slows down, except maybe your excitement level, as you drift with the wind. You'll feel suspended up in the air, and sometimes it's as if you're held up there, still, while everything below you moves slowly by. It's so quiet. Because you move with the wind, you don't even feel it.

You'll drift over the scenery soon after sunrise, soaking in views of lakes and the forested Sierra, and maybe even a glimpse of some wildlife below. Floating high above it all you'll get a new perspective on life, let alone of the surrounding countryside.

Once earthside, you'll sip a little bubbly with the crew for the traditional champagne toast but your heart will probably not really touch down for another hour or two. You come back to earth knowing you just can't describe it to those who've never floated in the skies.

*Mammoth Balloon Works ..... 935-4240*
*High Sierra Ballooning Co. .... 934-7188*

### Scenic Flights

**Why not rise above** your horizons and see the world around you on a scenic flight? You can say you've been to the Sierra, but really you know you've hardly seen any of it. As far as the answer to the old hook "What lies just over that ridge?" goes, well, you know there just aren't enough days in a normal life to let you hike enough to satisfy that yearning. The horizons loom high and daunting as either mountains or as trees, and you can lose your perspective pretty easy.

Elliott Aviation offers *very* affordable one-hour tours of the Sierra. The regular route takes you high above Mammoth Lakes and a loop through Yosemite, Tuolumne, Tioga Pass area, Mono Craters, June Lake, and back down Long Valley.

*Elliott Aviation Inc. ..... 934-2060*

### Hiking

**Get your hiking boots ready** for some of the best hiking in the Sierra, and it's practically right outside your door. Literally.

Some classics and favorites: hike along Mammoth Creek, or to Mammoth Rock. Hike up Sherwin Creek to Sherwin Lakes and Valentine Lake. Go out to Inyo Craters. Up in the Lakes Basin, you'll have more opportunities than you can count to get out and about. If you're in pretty good shape and have the time for a full day's hike, don't miss the Coldwater Canyon to Duck Lake (with plenty of lakes in between to stop and "smell the wildflowers").

Check with the U.S. Forest Service's Visitor Center on Main Street for information, or stop at Sandy's, Kittredge Sports or Brian's Bicycles for maps, books, and advice.

Protect yourself from sun, with sunglasses, hat and lotion. Bring lots of water, for the altitude, and a windbreaking jacket for the passes. Lunch snacks would help, too. *Don't forget the topo map*— stop at the Forest Service Visitor Center, Kittredge or The Booky Joint to pick one up.

There are also hikes on the Mountain, taking the Gondola up to the very 11,000-foot-top and walking around or hiking down. Vistas stretch 100 miles from that vantage point. There are regularly-scheduled, free, one-hour scenic walking tours of the summit that you might want to check into. Call the Mountain for information (see below).

Note: *The* book on hikes and backpacking in this area of the Sierra is *Mammoth Lakes Sierra — A Handbook for Roadside and Trail,* by Rinehart, et al, published by Genny Smith Books. Another good one is *Best Short Hikes in California's Southern Sierra,* by Karen and Terry Whitehill, published by the Mountaineers. They are both available at sports shops and the Forest Service's Visitor Center on Hwy 203, as well as The Booky Joint.

*The Booky Joint ..... 934-3240*
*Brian's Bicycles ..... 934-2008*
*Kittredge Sports ..... 934-7566*
*Mammoth/June Mountain ..... 934-2571*
*Rainbow Mountain ..... 934-4153*
*Sandy's Sports ..... 934-7518*
*US Forest Service ..... 924-5500*

### Backpacking

**You might do well** to consider Mammoth your gateway to the Sierra. With so many beneficial amenities available in the Town for before and after, it's no wonder thousands do. And yet the backcountry's not crowded, by any means. Not like it was in the '60s and '70s when everyone seemed to be backpacking the John Muir Freeway. Nowadays you can escape all that, perhaps seeing only a few people, total, your whole trip. Even in the more crowded, "must-see" meadow areas you'll be amazingly alone if you just walk about a quarter of a mile off-trail. People do tend to congregate or follow habit, and after all you're after adventure.

Give yourself enough time to "slow down" and slough off the routines and paces of your "other" life. It takes time for that. Test some of the new advances in freeze-dried meals — you'll be pleasantly surprised at the growth in choices if not in tastes.

From Mammoth, you have perfect access via Agnew Meadows or Reds Meadow, or via nearby Convict Lake and Rock Creek trailheads. Use Mammoth as entry or exit point, too, for shuttle trips. Take the Shuttle from the Mammoth Mountain Inn down to the meadows. Or take advantage of Mammoth Cab's ability to shuttle you to or from locations spread over Lone Pine to Yosemite. Get together a group of up to 5 or 6, hike from Tuolumne to Agnew (a trek certainly covering the most variety, the most beauty of the Sierra), and hire them to shuttle you back to your car. Call to set up an itinerary or to get information in advance, though. (Mountain Shuttle and Mammoth Cab information can also be found on the Recreation Map pages in this issue.)

As far as trip suggestions, I'd recom-

mend picking up a copy of Thomas Winnett's *Sierra North*. With its good choices, silhouetted graphs of elevation gain and duration, summaries of the best features about the trips, the map, and some thoughtfully descriptive words about each venture, the book stands alone.

If you're experienced at wilderness travel and reasonably careful, you might find all you need in the venerable classic *Starr's Guide to the John Muir Trail*, from Sierra Club books (complete with waterproof cover). Take a few choice topos, this book, and an unforgettable mountain adventure will be sure to follow.

You should be able to find both books at sports shops or The Booky Joint. Topos can be found at the Forest Service's Visitor Center, Kittredge's and The Booky Joint, and you can pick up backpacking gear at Kittredge's, Rainbow Mountain, Sandy's or Brian's Bikes. Some of these shops also rent gear.

Remember to stop by the US Forest Service's Visitor's Center for wilderness permits and further information or expert advice.

*The Booky Joint* ..... *934-3240*
*Brian's Bicycles* ..... *934-2008*
*Kittredge Sports* ..... *934-7566*
*Mammoth Cab* ..... *934-3346*
*Rainbow Mountain* ..... *934-4153*
*Sandy's Sports* ..... *934-7518*
*US Forest Service Visitor Center* ..... *924-5500*

## Horse Packing & Day Rides

**These outfitters** seem agreeable to whatever you want to do, with however much of themselves taking a part in it that you'd like. Take a picnic ride; go on a fishing adventure to any of the hundreds of pristine mountain lakes and streams; have them drop you, or even just your stuff, at a campsite deep in the Sierra; of course you can even have the packers stay and prepare all your meals for you.

Some of them gear trips around flyfishing, photography and painting workshops, natural history, hunting, improving your horsemanship, and there are even horse drives where you help drive herds of horses to new pasture.

As you ride your trail-wise mount away from civilization, perhaps scaring up a deer or two, you find it hard not to imagine yourself riding just as you would have a hundred years ago, or at least just like you were in some old movie of how the West used to be.

***Rock Creek Pack Station*** - *Craig London and Dave Dohnel, Box 248, Bishop, CA 93515* ..... *935-4493*
***Mammoth Lakes Pack Outfit*** - *Lee, Lou and Mary Roeser, Box 61, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546* ..... *934-2434*
***McGee Creek Pack Station*** - *Lee and Jennifer Roeser, Rt. 1, Box 162, Mammoth Lakes, CA* ..... *935-4324*
***Agnew Meadows Pack Station, or Red's Meadow Pack Train*** - *Bob Tanner, Box 395, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546* ..... *934-2345*
***Frontier Pack Train*** - *Dink Getty, Box 18, Star Rt. 33, June Lake, CA 93546* ..... *648-7701*

## Mountain Biking

**Make a leisurely day** of it or make it a challenging work-out, and get ready for the really fun ups-and-downs of your life. On your way you'll see inspiring mountains, lakes, creeks and waterfalls, natural hot springs, ghost towns and national monuments.

The first thing you should know is that the riding in this area is outstanding. There is more variety of scenery and terrain than you'll find anywhere else in California, with an abundance of trails giving solitude and tree-shaded adventure, although there's little single-track riding in the Mammoth area, except in the Mountain Bike Park on Mammoth Mountain and the Horseshoe Lake loop. Bikes are not allowed on hiking trails since they head into wilderness areas, and all mountain bike-legal trails are fire roads.

Be careful, take maps and remember that at this elevation a workout may be more anaerobic than aerobic.

Try out the **Mammoth Mountain Bike Park**, with over fifty miles of single-track trails and paths covering 3,500 acres, all rated variously from beginner to expert, heading generally downhill but with plenty of opportunities for a good workout. The Gondola can give you quick access to trails at mid-Chalet as well as those at the 11,000-foot top of the mountain, including the thrilling and challenging Kamikaze downhill. There's also a new obstacle arena and a timed slalom race course for you to test yourself against. This is world-class adventure, the scene of the Nationals and the World Cup races for the last few years. The Mammoth Mountain Bike Center, located at the base of the Mountain next to the Main Lodge, is where you'll buy your tickets to the Park, and they have a large rental and repair facility as well as new bike sales.

**Mammoth Adventure Connection** (at Mammoth Mountain Inn, across from the Park), in addition to their very large rental program, will provide clinics and mountain bike camps, great guided trips, shuttles, and box lunches over the summer.

Remember for your rides to take plenty (that means a lot more than you would at sea-level) of water and plenty of some carbo fuel to snack on, like Powerbars — you'll be more than glad you did.

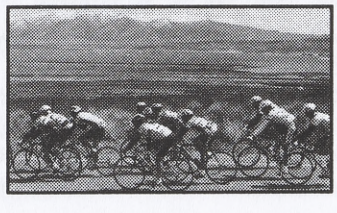
New this year is a trail map produced as a joint effort by the Mammoth Lakes Mountain Bike Association, the Town of Mammoth Lakes, and the U.S. Forest Service. It can guide you to the use of more than half a hundred miles of adventure — eight trails, signed and graded to deliver you into the heart of it all. Maps of the routes will be available from the Forest Service's Visitor Center, the Mammoth Mountain Bike Park, and sports shops around town.

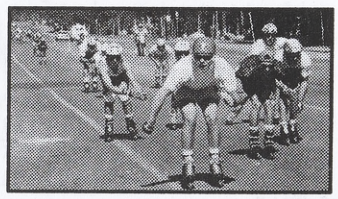
The book to buy for the area is *Mountain Biking the High Sierra, A Guide to Mammoth Lakes and Mono County, 2nd ed.*, by Don and Réanne Douglass. It's available at **The Booky Joint (934-3240), Brian's Bikes (934-2008)** and most bicycles shops, such as those listed below. Another idea is to pick up an "Inyo National Forest Map" at either the **U.S. Forest Service's Visitors Center** on Main Street **(934-2505)** or one of the shops below, to show you your way into and out of the "boonies."

*Footloose* ..... *934-2400*
*Kittredge Sports* ..... *934-7566*
*Mammoth Adventure Connection, and Mammoth Mountain Bike Center* ..... *934-0606*
*Mammoth Sporting Goods* .... *934-3239*
*Rainbow Mountain Rentals* .... *934-4153*
*Sandy's* ..... *934-7518*
*Village Sports* ..... *934-8220*

## Bicycle Touring

**Road cycling in the Sierra** takes some getting used to, especially if you're recently up here from the "flatlands." For one thing, the altitude takes some getting used to — take a day or two to take it easy before cranking it out on the asphalt. Take more water than you're used to; the thin air evaporates water from your breath and skin faster. For another, beware of the distractions. Incredible mountain peaks foreshortening your horizons, cool pines leaning to whisper above you, and oh, the clean, crisp air ... It's enough to take your eyes off the road.





There are not too many routes that are flat, but one of the favorites is along Benton Crossing Road (otherwise known as the **Little Green Church route**). Turn east off Hwy 395 and head out towards the Glass Mountains. You can turn around at the Owens River (about 7 miles) and head back, or you can follow the road until it turns to dirt (about another 13 miles) before turning back, making it a good 40-mile workout in quiet, relatively untraveled terrain.

Other routes involve more of the old ups-and-downs, but you're in the mountains and trees. Try taking the **Mammoth Scenic Loop** by heading out of town toward the Ski Area and taking a right on the Scenic Loop road. It's downhill to Hwy 395 where you'll take it south to the Mammoth turnoff, Hwy 203, and then gradually uphill back into town. This comes out to be about 16 miles.

Of course the **Upper Lakes Basin** is quintessentially Mammoth and beautifully scenic. Use caution, though, as the roads are narrow and have not only automobile but pedestrian traffic on them with you.

**Mammoth Sporting Goods (934-3239)** and **Brian's Bikes (934-2008)** will have plenty more suggestions for you. Call the **G.S. Sharks (934-2110)** the local cycling club, for more information and perhaps group rides that would coincide with your time in Mammoth (Brian's Bikes will also know about these scheduled rides).

## Fishing

**It's the contrast in spirit** between the sound of gently sloshing water, the almost hypnotic activity accompanying it, and the sudden tug on a line, the sudden tug of adrenaline, the frenzied splashing and the clashing of two wills — this is fishing.

Fishing in the eastern Sierra is incomparable. From High Sierra solitude to high desert expansiveness, the majestic scenery around our lakes and streams set the scene for personal adventures that will challenge all your armchair musings.

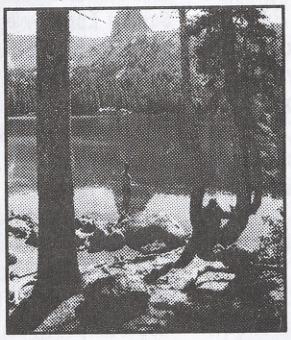
Although bait and lure fishing also excel hereabouts, it is for flyfishing that ▶

people get most worked up about. Especially when you have a treasure like **Upper Hot Creek**, rated among the top three wild trout streams in the West. In spring, even beginners are successful with nymphs; during summer, a spring creek dry flyfishing adventure challenges even the old-timers.

Try flyfishing by float tubing, sitting comfortably in an inner tube slinged with you, all your gear, snacks and cold brew, off in your own little world, paddling about someplace like good ol' consistent **Crowley Lake**, where you're almost guaranteed to come away with stories to equal the big mountain backdrop, or up in the mountains themselves, in the underrated **Twin Lakes**.

Of course, renting a boat or even a canoe for a mountain lake rendezvous might be just the thing, too.

Guide services and shops in town are known far and wide for their friendly advice, patient ears and hot tips. Some guides specialize in taking families. And, no matter how unskilled you might be, their assistance can, after a half-day's trip, turn you all into knowledgeable fishers of our wild or farm trout (brookies, rainbow, brown, cutthroat, high country goldens), and the fine-tasting Sacramento perch.



***Kittredge Sports*** *- shop with rentals & guiding for both spin & flyfishing ..... 934-7566, or (800) 441-3331*

***Mammoth Adventure Connection*** *- guiding and rentals ..... 934-0606, or (800) 228-4947*

***Mammoth Sporting Goods*** *934-8474*

***Rick's Sport Shop*** *..... 934-3416*

***Sandy's*** *..... 934-7518*

***Sierra Bright Dot*** *- shop & guiding; also rents tubes, demo equipment..... 934-5514*

***The Trout Fly*** *- shop & guiding ..... 934-2517*

***Western Waters Flyfishing*** *- guiding ..... 934-4897*

*Boats (Row, Motor) & Canoe Rentals*

*Crowley Lake ..... 935-4301*
*Lake George, Woods Lodge ... 934-2261*
*Lake Mamie, Wildyrie Lodge . 934-2444*
*Barrett's Landing*
*(formerly Lake Mary Store) .... 934-5353*
*Lake Mary, Pokonobe Lodge . 934-2437*
*Rock Creek Lake Store ..... 935-4311*
*Twin Lakes Store ..... 934-6974*
*Twin Lakes, Tamarack Lodge*
*(guests only) ..... 934-2442*

## Car Tours

**Even if you sit in your car**, there's plenty of adventure waiting for you. Drive slow — the roads may be dirt, anyway — but you'll want to let a little slowness enter your life. Out here, you don't have to rush past something as if you don't want it to soak any deeper than it has to under your skin. What's here's good for you.

Just hopping in the car and driving to explore where that road over there goes is the best way to create car adventures, but there are several destination-oriented trips you may want try, especially if your time is limited or you've got kids that need to know "how long" and "where" you're taking them to. Drop by the **Visitors Center** in Mammoth Lakes or call them for a brochure on "Exploring Mammoth By Car." Popular destinations are **Yosemite Park, Bodie, Mono Lake, June Lake, Reds Meadow, Devils Postpile, Rainbow Falls,** the **Rock Creek Fish Hatchery, Geothermal Geologic Site,** and, of course, the beautiful **Lakes Basin**.

But try to get out of the car and listen to the silence — walk so you hear the crunch of pine needles. Feel the wind. Smell air so clear it's fresher than peppermint.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes has a great brochure, which you can obtain by calling their offices at **934-2712**, or **(800) 367-6572**. It, and other brochures of activities to do around Mammoth, can also be picked up at their offices on Main Street in Town.

## Historical

**If you're a history buff**, you've come to the right place. This is the kind of country that wears its history on its sleeve, so to speak. (Even if it is a bit of a raggedy sleeve.) Its geological history is its most prominent feature, of course. To understand a little of why this area looks the way it does (a tremendous story), and why geologists wish heaven would let them come here to study after they die, go see the natural history displays at the **Hot Creek Geological Site, Mono Lake, Panum Crater, Convict Lake** and the **US Forest Service Visitor Center** near Town.

For a peek at how human history entered into the area, there are **petroglyphs** to be found east of here near the base of the White Mountains. But signs of more recent inhabitants are, naturally, more common. Mining had been the essence of development in the eastern Sierra, before tourism, and you'll find everything from old mine tunnels and stamp mills to ghost towns remaining.

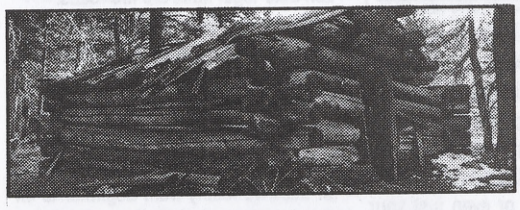
The standout among them: **Bodie**, so remarkable it is a National Monument, must be seen to be experienced. Make no mistake — this is no reconstructed, "authentic" tourist trap complete with reenacted shoot-outs to entertain you. The experience speaks quite well for itself, thank you. Listen to tumbleweeds, smell the pale dust, gaze thoughtfully at the bleached and weathered wood walls.

(An interesting note: There were more than twice as many people living in Bodie when it was at its peak than there are now living in Mammoth as fulltime residents.)

Closer to Town, there are the sites of Pine City and Mammoth City, and Old Mammoth. Remnants of the Mammoth Mining Company, the Doyle Mill, Mill City rest like afterthoughts amongst the pines and gray rock. Visit the site of Mammoth's erstwhile claim to fame, the **Mammoth Consolidated Gold Mine** near the Coldwater Creek campground, above Lake Mary.

And don't forget a stop at the **Mammoth Museum**. Take Old Mammoth road to Sherwin Creek Road and turn off it just before the equestrian center. Sitting alongside Mammoth Creek, the cabin-cum-museum holds much of Mammoth's history inside its four log walls.

Books of interest concerning the area and its past are *Mammoth Gold* by Gary



Caldwell, *Old Mammoth* by A. Reed, *The Lost Cement Mine* by J.W.A. Wright, *Mammoth Lakes Sierra* by Rinehart, Smith, Vestal and Willard. They can be found in stores in Town like The Booky Joint or Kittredge's.

You may also elect to stay in one of the really historic lake lodges and soak in the past as you soak in the peace — the people running the lodges have a good sense of the history of the area and will be only too glad to share some of it with you.

*The Booky Joint ..... 934-3240*
*Crystal Crag Lodge ..... 934-2436*
*Kittredge Sports ..... 934-7566*
*Mammoth Lakes Visitors Bureau ..... 934-2712*
*Tamarack Lodge Resort ..... 934-2442*
*Wildyrie Lodge ..... 934-2444*
*Wood's Lodge ..... 934-2261*

## Hay Rides

**Go for a roll** — and a ride — in the hay. And afterwards, enjoy a sumptious, old-fashioned barbecue feast and entertainment.

Two different outfits are available to take you through two different types of terrain on the hay ride.

**Sierra Meadows Equestrian Center**'s hayride takes you through spacious Mammoth meadows at the foot of the majestic Sherwin range (site of many movies and television commercials). Call for information and reservations, **934-6161**

**Mammoth Adventure Connection**'s hayride leaves the front of the Mammoth Mountain Inn and rolls through field and forest over Mammoth Mountain down to Red's Lake. Call for information and reservations, **934-0606**

## Fitness Centers

**We know, you came up** here to relax. But you also know that if you miss your daily workouts at the gym, you can easily backslide past any of the hard-won gains.

As if there weren't enough outdoor activities to keep you in shape, there's the indoor variety, too. Get in your fitness training and cardiovascular workouts with up-to-date fitness machines, free weights, counselors, and all the amenities you could desire, for whatever level you're needing.

**Body Shop** (daily & weekly rates offered) **934-3700**

**Mammoth Fitness and Gym Center** (daily, monthly and yearly passes are available. Gym also available for basketball and volleyball. Open evenings, for anyone 13 years and over. Sponsored by Town Parks and Recreation and Mammoth High School, at the high school) **934-8983**

**Snowcreek Athletic Club** (quarterly rates offered, or free if renting a condo through Snowcreek Resort. SAC also has tennis & racquetball courts, swimming pool and spa facilities) **934-8511**

## Information

**For general information** on the Mammoth Lakes area, contact the Mammoth Lakes Visitors Bureau at 934-2712, or stop by when you're in town. Located on Main St. ***MS***

## *Breakfast Basics -- $1.99 each*

POACHED EGGS & TOAST
2 EGGS & TOAST
SCRAMBLED EGGS & TOAST
EGG ON AN ENGLISH MUFFIN
ORIGINAL PANCAKES
FRENCH TOAST
BELGIAN WAFFLES
OATMEAL REG. & FLAVORED

SIDE ORDERS: $.75 HAM, BACON, SAUSAGE, HASH BROWNS

## *Omelettes & Toast -- $3.95*

MENDOCINO OMELETTE mozzarella, pepperoni, onions, bell peppers topped with marinara sauce.
SPANISH OMELETTE potatoes, onions, tomatoes, & bell peppers.
DENVER OMELETTE ham, cheese, onions, & bell peppers.
HAM & CHEESE OMELETTE ham & smoked cheddar cheese.
BROCCOLI & CHEESE OMELETTE
EGG WHITE OMELETTE a heart-healthy breakfast.
CREATE YOUR OWN OMELETTE combine anything we have - any way you want it prepared. (Market Price)

| ESPRESSO BAR | | BEVERAGES | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ESPRESSO | $1.95 | ORANGE JUICE | $1.25 |
| CAPPUCCINO | 1.95 | PINEAPPLE JUICE | 1.25 |
| CAFE MOCHA | 1.95 | APPLE JUICE | 1.25 |
| CAFE' AU LAIT | 1.95 | HOT SPICED CIDER | .98 |
| COFFEE | .98 | MILK | 1.25 |
| TEA reg & herb | .98 | MIMOSA | 1.95 |

## *Fresh Ground Specialty Coffees:*

HAZELNUT CREME
COLOMBIAN SUPREMO
MOKA-JAVA
GRAND MARNIER
VIENNA ROAST
KONA EXTRA PRIME
FRENCH ROAST
AMARETTO & slivered almonds
MANY OTHER COFFEES AVAILABLE ON A ROTATING BASIS

## *Breakfast South of the Border*

HUEVOS RANCHEROS fried eggs topped with ranchero sauce with a side of beans. ..... $3.95
MUCHACA BURRITO shredded beef, eggs, cheese & salsa wrapped in a flour tortilla with a side of beans topped with enchilada sauce. ..... 3.95
POLLO GRANDE OMELETTE green chili peppers, jack cheese, chicken, salsa & a side of beans. ..... 4.25
CHORIZO & EGGS scrambled eggs, chorizo, bell peppers, onions, tomatoes & cheese wrapped in a flour tortilla with a side of beans. ..... 4.25

## *Breakfast Specialties*

EGGS BENEDICT ..... $4.25
BAGEL, CHEESE & LOX with tomato & onion. ..... 4.95
CREPES BENEDICT crepes filled with Canadian bacon & scrambled eggs topped with Hollandaise sauce. ..... 4.95
CREPES NEWBERG crepes filled with scrambled eggs, shrimp & crab topped with Newberg sauce. ..... 5.25
POACHED EGGS & SMOKED SALMON on toast. ..... 5.95
STEAK & EGGS with hash browns & toast. ..... 6.95
CREPES SUZETTES flamed tableside. ..... 4.25
SWEET OMELETTE FLAMBE a fluffy omelette with a touch of brandy and curacao flamed tableside. ..... 4.25

# *Seafood Menu*

## *Salads*

*With Your Choice of 1,000 Isle, Italian Herb, Bleu Cheese or House Ranch*

Tuna ..... 3.95
Shrimp ..... 4.95
Crab ..... 6.25
Combo – *Shrimp & Crab* ..... 5.95
Chef Salad ..... 3.95
Cobb Salad ..... 4.25
House Salad ..... 2.25
Antipasto Salad ..... 4.25
*With Ripe Avocado...Add 60¢*

## *Seafood Sandwiches*

*Served on Fresh Sourdough with Lettuce, Tomato, Green Onions*

Shrimp ..... 3.95
Crab ..... 5.25
Combo – *Shrimp & Crab* ..... 4.95

## *Seafood Cocktails*

*Cocktail Sauce, Lemon & Green Onions*

Shrimp ..... 3.25
Crab ..... 4.25
Combo – *Shrimp & Crab* ..... 3.95

## *Char-Grilled Seafood Plates*

*• Served With Rice & Salad •*
*Your choice of 1,000 Isle, Italian Herb, Bleu Cheese or House Ranch*

Snapper ..... 4.95
Calamari Steak ..... 5.95
Mahi Mahi ..... 5.95
Shark ..... 6.45
Halibut ..... 6.95
Sea Bass ..... 6.95
Norwegian Salmon ..... 7.95

Fish Tacos ..... 4.95
Shrimp Tacos ..... 5.95
*2 Tacos With Rice & Salad*

## *Char-Grilled Seafood Sandwiches*

*Served on Fresh Sourdough with Lettuce, Tomato, Green Onion*

Snapper ..... 4.25
Calamari Steak ..... 4.95
Mahi Mahi ..... 4.95
Shark ..... 5.45
Halibut ..... 5.95
Sea Bass ..... 5.95

# *Deli Menu*

*Sandwiches: $3.95 — 1/2's $2.75*

Roast Beef
Turkey
Salami
Tuna
Ham
Pastrami
Corned Beef
Cheese
Reuben ..... $4.25

All sandwiches come with Mustard, Mayo, Lettuce, & Tomato & Your Choice of Pickle Slices, Potato Salad, Macaroni Salad, Coleslaw, French Fries, Onion Rings or Fried Zucchini
Cheeses: American, Swiss, Jack, Cheddar, Provolone ..... 35¢

*Soups Du Jour*

Large $2.50 Small $2.25

*1/2 Pints of Deli Salads*

Potato Salad ..... $1.25
Macaroni Salad ..... 1.25
Cole Slaw ..... 1.25
Pasta Salad ..... 1.25
Fruit Salad ..... 1.25
Tortellini ..... 2.50
Carrot & Raisin ..... 1.25

*Submarines — $4.75*

#1 – Cotto Salami, Mortadella, Dry Italian, & Provolone
#2 – Any Two Meats & Cheese
#3 – Turkey, Ham, & Cheese.

All submarines come with Mayo, Lettuce, Tomato, Italian dressing, and Potato Salad, Macaroni Salad, Cole Slaw, or Pickle Slices

HOT DOGS ..... $1.75
KRAUT DOGS ..... 1.75
CHILI DOGS ..... 2.95
BOWL of CHILI ..... 2.75

*Salad Bar $3.95*

*Side Orders*
*$1.50*
French Fries, Onion Rings, Fried Zucchini

## *Hot Lunch Menu*

*Sandwiches — $3.95*

ITALIAN SAUSAGE
BBQ CHICKEN
BBQ BEEF
FRENCH DIP
MEATBALLS

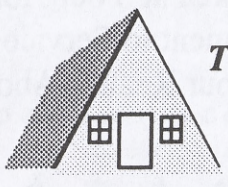
Includes Choice of Potato Salad, Macaroni Salad, Coleslaw, French Fries, Onion Rings or Fried Zucchini

*Burgers & Fries — $4.25*

Hamburger
Bacon Cheeseburger
Cheese Burger
Chili Cheeseburger

*Our Signature Muffins 50¢*
Blueberry & Bran


# $1.00 OFF
## All Sandwiches
With this coupon

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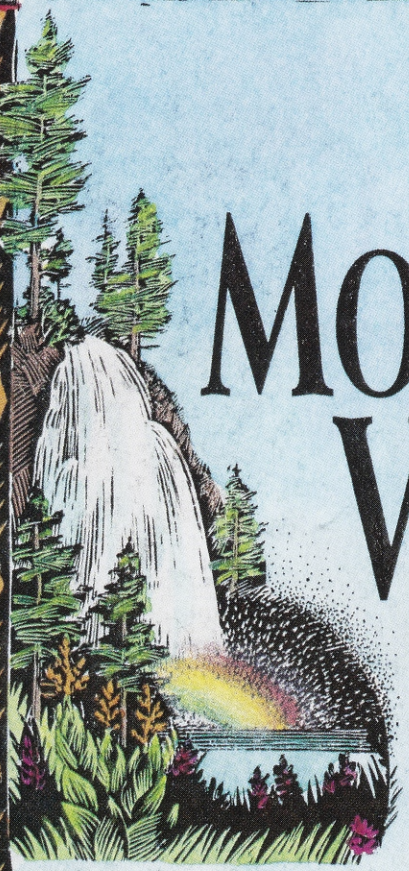
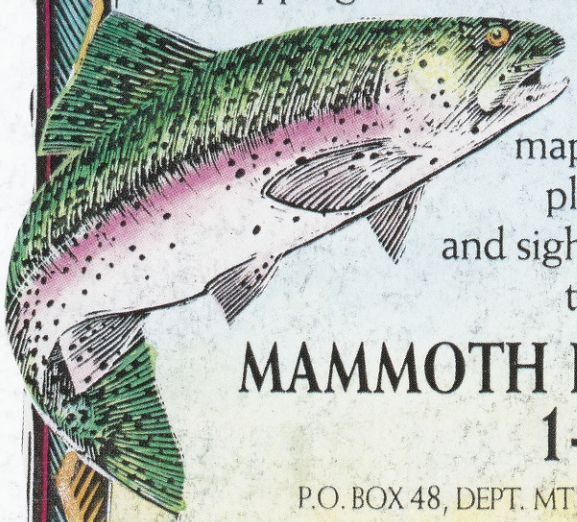
# MORE THAN A VACATION



More than great hiking, fishing, horseback riding, mountain biking, sightseeing and golf... Mammoth Lakes has two wilderness areas, a national monument, dozens of lakes and one of the largest national forests in America. And, more for your money with affordable accommodations, great shopping and more than 50 restaurants.



Stop by our Visitor Center for free maps, lodging information and restaurant guides; plus brochures on recreational activities, events and sightseeing. Located on Main Street, across from the Post Office; open daily from 8 am to 5 pm.

## MAMMOTH LAKES VISITORS BUREAU

## 1-800-367-6572

P.O. BOX 48, DEPT. MT MAMMOTH LAKES, CA 93546 | 619-934-8006